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SEPTEMBER 21, 2000 [53.7]

Martlet

THE POLITICS OF COFFEE

Do *you* want corporate java on campus?

photo by Richard Warrington

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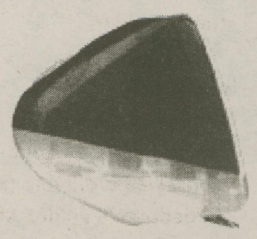

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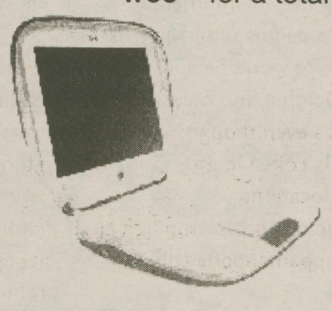

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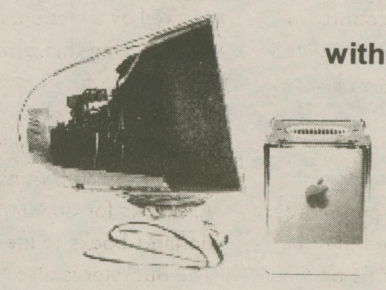

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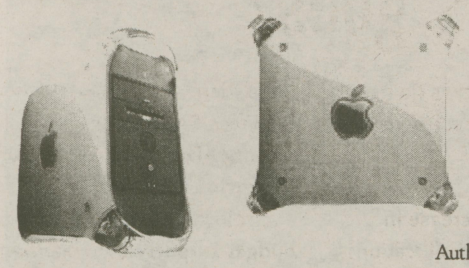

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The politics of Starbucks

CaféFrappéLatteSkimSlimVanilla: Wanna Mocha?

by Sarah Glen

With over 2,000 stores stationed around the world – in almost exclusively hyper-industrialized countries – Starbucks coffeehouses are everywhere.

Even Dubai, a small country on the Persian Gulf has an army green coffee queen heralding java lovers into its aromatic fold.

The question is, how does an American coffee shop become an international phenomenon in under 20 years? It has been said that the Starbucks corporation runs on similar politics as the old Soviet command economy - all power and profit is centralized, and the sweet labour of love is homogenized to the hilt. There are no incentives for anyone to succeed or to be creative: everything from barristas to beans is made to blend in.

And while the Soviet system crumbled under the weight of its own agenda in 1991, almost 10 years later the Starbucks corporation is booming - growth related directly to its aggressive corporate politics marked by a credo that reads, "recognizing that profitablity is essential to future success."

While bringing in profits, Starbucks, supposedly, is still giving back to the communities it serves. Its All Books for Children campaign donates books to literacy programs. The Buckster is also tied to environmental awareness campaigns in Chiapas, Mexico. Their marketeers say they plan to sell fair traded coffee and coffee beans in their stores.

Fair trade rules ensure that corporations pay farmers in developing countries a premium price for their goods.

Such philanthropic programs have won Starbucks awards since 1994.

One international humanitarian award was given to Starbucks in 1996 from CARE, a human rights group Starbucks donates to annually.

Although in operation since 1971, the literacy programs weren't started until 1997 and the environmental awareness campaigns until 1999. The fair traded coffee won't be sold in stores until October and only in the United States - even though Starbucks sells coffee in 292 international locations.

It's a public relations campaign as sweet as a frappamahooha with honey on top.

Starbucks follows the path of other billion-dollar American multinationals like McDonalds and Disneyland who have made the politics of homogenization a river of milk winding around the globe.

And while some would argue that corporate homogenization is unhealthy and destroys culture and diversity, it seems to be what people want.

Buy a Starbucks coffee (whether it be here on campus or in Dubai) and you know what you'll be drinking. Even Howard Schultz, chairman and CEO of Starbucks agrees that "people are comforted by what they know." Even if it gives you gut rot.

The corporation states in another 'guiding principle' that it "embraces diversity as the essential component in the way we do business," but like a command economy, it encourages uniformity by giving company managers bonuses if they bring in a profit while sticking to the corporation's policies. And the homogenization doesn't stop with the lattés and wallpaper. The corporation has an intellectual property clause in its employee contracts that states it owns all the intellectual and creative rights to any new coffee product developed by the staff. It's a clause that, like a friend of mine who used to work at a local Starbucks told me, "puts employees in a creative straightjacket."

But it's a profitable restraint. The politics of Starbucks fits itself voluntarily into what Thomas L. Friedman, author of The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization calls the "golden straightjacket."

He explains that in an increasingly interconnected world countries and corporations alike have to adopt certain restrictions in order to keep themselves profitable (i.e. golden).

Friedman's golden straightjacket theory fits Starbucks' politics -

in the corporation's move to amass wealth and continue to grow it needs to a tight reign on its business practices.

As for Mac's Deli, UVic's new Starbucks coffee vendor, it's good business practice to know your product.

UVSS budget: wanna know where your fifty bucks goes?

by Simon Glezos

Every semester the UVic student society collects $58.70 in student fees per full-time student to offer services most of us know little about.

But this year's University of Victoria Student Society (UVSS) budget holds all the answers to your million-dollar questions.

The proposed budget, approved at a Board of Directors meeting in August, predicts a total overall revenue of $1,447,600 through the UVSS fees.

"It's pretty close to what we were hoping for," said Greg Awai, UVSS Director of Finance who added that he was enthusiastic about the budget. "We were hoping for a bit more of a surplus, but overall it's not bad."

The budget is down slightly from last year's $1,451,200, attributed to a higher proportion of part-time students who only pay half the amount of UVSS fees that full-time students pay.

Returns from the UVSS business operations are projected at approximately $477,700, up from $420,600 last year. This is the result of increased food sales in the SUB, as well as increased revenues from campus services like Felicita's, SubText, Zap and Vertigo. This year will mark the first time ever the SUB's only night club, Vertigo, is expected to make a profit.

Despite the $57,000 increase in operations revenues, total net operations costs increased by $44,000. This is due to a relatively large increase in total administration expenditures, attributed to new jobs and an increase in salaries for support staff as part of a collective bargaining agreement reached in 1998.

The UVSS created a position for a second resource coordinator, at a cost of $30,000. The second position was created to help alleviate the workload of the Resource Coordinator. The position is prone to long overtime hours and a high burnout rate, and the typically high work volume slowed down UVSS operations making the second position necessary, Awai said.

With the U-Pass contract up again this year the UVSS will have to hold a referendum at a cost of $16,000. Awai pointed out that that is $1,000 less than the March 1998 referendum in which UVic students first voted for the U-Pass.

A small windfall of $15,000 has been earmarked for new Board projects. Awai said the money will go towards two projects. The first will see Canadian Federation of Students t-shirts and sweat shirts manufactured at a "union shop" and sold on campus. The second is a Nick O' Teen comic book to be produced with the *Martlet* Publishing Society.

"As always there's money going places that I don't think it should go," said Director-at-Large Andrew McVie. "Any bureaucracy is going to waste money, especially a left wing one. All the same I think Greg's done a good job."

As a result of the decrease in student fees, committed allocations, which are tied to revenues, have seen a minor across-the-board decrease. This includes allocations for clubs and course unions, Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG), CFUV radio station, and the Sexual Assault Centre, among other services. The only allocations which did not decrease were to the Ombudsperson's office, which saw a slight increase, and the *Martlet* Publishing Society, which will remain the same.

"It think it's an excellent budget," said UVSS Chairperson Summer McFayden. "I was really pleased with Business Services' improving revenue. This will allow the university to provide more services."

Projections include a $16,600 budget surplus, just clearing the required three per cent. However, this year will also see a drop in the amount of funds allocated towards paying off the UVSS' accumulated deficit, with $25,000 down versus last year's $50,000, a fact that Awai attributes to "increased costs".

"Part of the logic is that the deficit was built up over a number of years," said Awai. "Why penalize students by paying it off all at once?"

Though the Board has approved the budget, it still has to be ratified by the student body at the Oct. 19 UVSS Annual General Meeting.

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Elaho Great-Grandmother's Charges Stayed

By Miguel R. MacDonald

Supporters and friends of protester and great-grandmother Betty Krawczyk were shocked when granted a stay on proceedings Tuesday morning. Room 103 of the provincial court building was half full with Krawczyk's friends and fellow protesters who left the courtroom perplexed only minutes after the 72-year-old great grandmother was scheduled to appear.

Krawczyk was charged with contempt of court after she pitched a tent on the British Columbia legislature lawn this month and demanded to see Premier Ujjal Dosanjh.

"I think it was improper that she was thrown off of the people's lawn and thrown in the clinker," said Western Canada Wilderness Committee Director (WCWC) Joe Foy who attended what would have been the court proceedings. Foy added that B.C. Premier Ujjal Dosanjh should own up to his responsibilities to the people of B.C. and defend those putting their lives on the line to protect ancient forests. "I think it was appalling that they gave her a year," he said.

Krawczyk was sentenced to a year in prison on Sept.14 in Vancouver where she faced charges of criminal contempt of court. The charge stems from her protesting the deforestation of the Elaho Valley, north of Whistler, by International Forest Products.

"The one-year sentence is totally outrageous," said Penny Joy, a long-time friend of Krawczyk. "I'm personally going to do all I can to get those charges stayed." Joy said she has already sent e-mails to Premier Ujjal Dosanjh and the Attorney General of British Columbia.

"When grandmothers and great-grandmothers can actually be locked up for one year for trying to protect old-growth forest, there is something vastly wrong with the judicial system in my view," Joy said.

"The trail judge took into consideration all the relevant factors and gave the sentence he gave," said Crown prosecutor Brian Rendell.

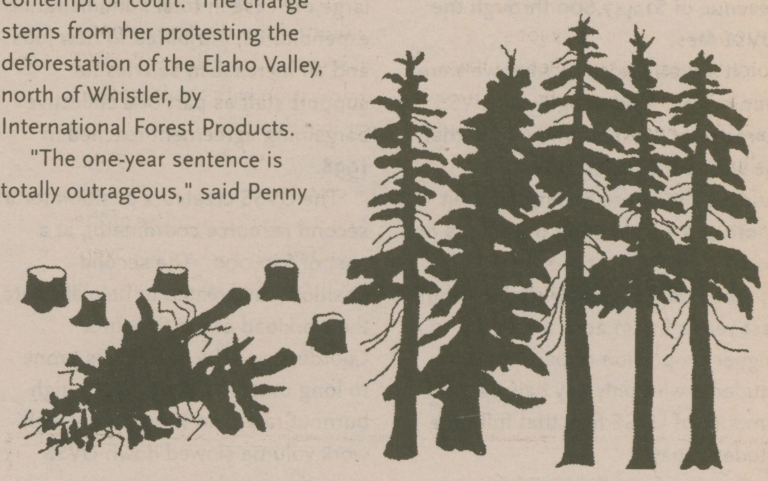
Justice Glen Parret presided over the Sept.14 trial.

Also sentenced to a year in prison without chance of parole for criminal contempt of court was Barney Kern, 36, of People's Action for Threatened Habitat (PATH).

> When grandmothers and great-grandmothers can actually be locked up for one year for trying to protect old-growth forest there is something vastly wrong with the judicial system.

Krawczyk and Kern's trials have further motivated activists to stage a day of action Sept. 30 from noon till 2 p.m. The B.C. Ancient Forest Rally will take place in front of the legislature building and will bring supporters and speakers of the Elaho Valley, Clayoquot Sound, and the Great Bear Rainforest just to name a few.

"We are going to completely rock the government over this," said Ken Wu, an activist with WCWC.



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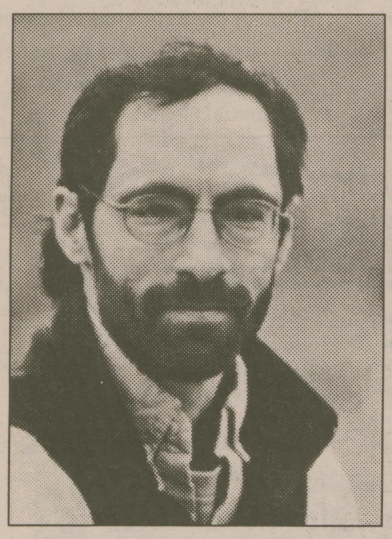

Todd Balf -

Thursday September 21, 7:30 pm at Princess Mary

The Last River is the Tsangpo Gorge, a roaring torrent deep in the heart of Tibet, uncharted and unconquered. In 1998, a team of five American white-water kayakers embarked on the treacherous quest to conquer the Tsangpo Gorge. Tragically, not all of them returned. **The Last River** (Random House) is journalist Todd Balf's account of this ill-fated expedition. In the tradition of *The Perfect Storm* and *Into Thin Air*, **The Last River** is true-life writing at its most harrowing. Don't miss Balf's multimedia presentation, presented in cooperation with Ocean River Sports.

Sandra Dean -

Tuesday September 26, 7:30 pm at Princess Mary

There are books that you read, and then there are books that inspire you, that touch you deeply, that change your life. Sandra Dean's ***Hearts and Minds*** (Penguin) is one of the latter. Dean, an Ontario elementary school principal, chronicles her struggles with school underfunding (sound familiar?) and the steps that she, and her community, took to ensure the education of their children. Few issues are as significant right now as that of education funding - join us as we welcome Sandra Dean and her insightful and inspirational story to Victoria.

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BC Greens to choose new leader

Candidates propose bold policy initiatives

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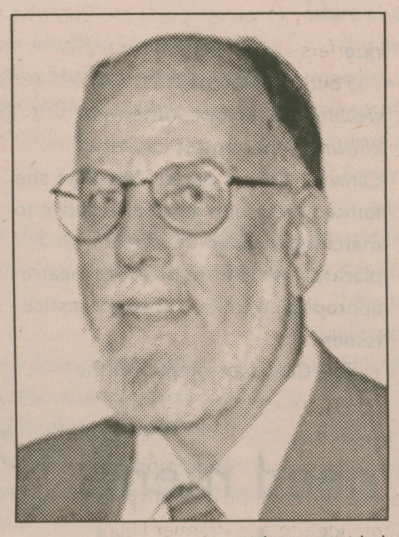
Adrianne Carr



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Wally Du Temple

photo provided

Andy Shadrack

by Brenda Martin

There are rumblings of change in the provincial Green Party this fall with an upcoming convention to choose a new leader.

Adrianne Carr, Wally Du Temple and Andy Shadrack are in the running to see who will lead B.C.'s third party into the next provincial election.

A leadership convention is taking place Sept. 23 at the rowing club in Vancouver's verdant Stanley Park.

Carr, a member of the Powell River/Sunshine Coast constituency, says she understands that a healthy environment means not only a healthy economy but a healthy community.

She says that the public is being asked to choose between a quality environment and quality jobs – a choice she calls unfair. People have to be told that they can have "a quality life, quality environment and quality jobs," she said.

Carr looks to B.C.'s forestry industry as an example.

"Why are we shipping out raw logs?" she asks, suggesting that instead of focusing on export-driven revenue, the industry must consider adding value to the wood they harvest. The more manufacturing a log undergoes the more it is worth.

"There should be a strong furniture market in B.C." Carr said.

She also supports taxing activities that have "a negative impact on health," citing existing levies on alcohol and tobacco. She supports taxing corporations for their fossil-fuel emissions rather than allowing an already burdened national health-care system absorb the costs.

Carr says her platform differs from those of her running mates by offering a more holistic political style. She calls her approach cooperative, team-focused, as well as solution-oriented.

Carr was actively involved in the creation of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC) – an organization with the largest membership base of any environmental protection group in the country.

Carr was a co-founder of the Green Party in 1983. However, she took time off in 1985 to raise her children and help her partner Paul George with the administration of the WCWC.

She says she came back to the Green Party because she felt that politics had lost touch with peoples' basic needs.

Wally Du Temple of the Saanich North and the Islands constituency says he sees the need to focus on the economy in a sustainable way.

> We need a strong economy that doesn't destroy the environment
>
> *Wally Du Temple*

Du Temple supports free university tuition and professional training with a requirement to work in Canada for the first five years after graduation. Those who wished to leave the country earlier would have to pay back roughly 75 per cent of the cost of their education.

He points out that similar systems are currently working in the Republic of Ireland, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Another issue on Du Temple's platform is health care. He believes nurses need to be given more responsibility and importance.

"Nurses are underpaid and there aren't enough of them trained," Du Temple said.

If nurses were allowed to do more, such as deliver babies, health-care costs would be lower, he said.

Du Temple says his business perspective leaves him in good stead.

"Business must be part of the solution, because if it's not part of the solution it's part of the problem. [We need] a strong economy that doesn't destroy the environment," he said.

Du Temple ran the company Sub-Arctic Navigation Ltd., and now owns and operates a golf course in Sidney. He has been a member of the Green Party for the last seven years because he believes ecology-driven economics need to be represented in B.C. politics.

Andy Shadrack, the third candidate in the Green leadership race and a member of the West Kooteney – Boundary constituency, supports community-based democracy and earth ethics.

The city of Nelson, part of Shadrack's constituency, has a producer co-operative that encourages farmers to sell in-season fruit and vegetables in order to stop the import of food from California.

Shadrack wants to "encourage people to eat food grown in their own bio-region."

He says it costs us too much in fossil fuel and water usage to eat produce imported from California.

Shadrack also wants to encourage communities to look at their forests in a holistic way, .

"Forest aren't a timber mine," he said.

Shadrack argues that B.C.'s woods can be used for medicinal herbs, mushrooms and wild craft as well as timber, he said. He would like to see ecosystem-based planning used in forestry to limit the amount of trees taken so that the entire eco-system isn't damaged.

Education is another issue on Shadrack's platform. He thinks tuition should be abolished.

"I was helped with my education [in Britain] and I feel an obligation to pay taxes...to support students and the elderly," Shadrack said. He thinks generational ties are being broken by a society not fully supportive of students and their education.

Shadrack joined the Green Party in 1993 after supporting the NDP for many years.

He says he made the switch because he realized that we "couldn't have social justice without ecological responsibility."

The Green Party of B.C. began in 1983 with a mandate to look at B.C. politics through a "green lens." Before the early 1990s, the Greens had regional spokespersons rather than one leader. But according to Alan Dolan, a member of the party's Victoria board, they felt they were "getting left out of the media by not having a single leader."

Stewart Parker, the party's first leader, was removed by a membership vote at a convention last spring, following a change in the party's ruling executive.

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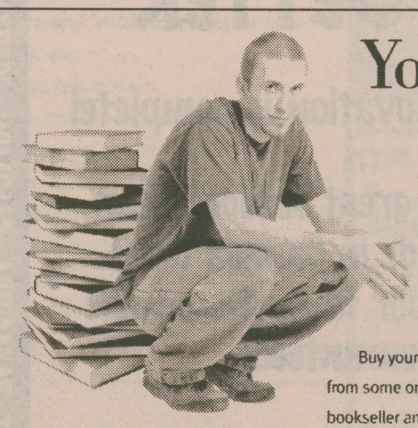

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Radical cheers at Take Back the Night

photo by Richard Warrington

One of the Radical Cheerleaders at a protest on the steps of the Legislature last year.

by Melissa Jones

Armed with pom-poms, radical cheers and their own version of kung-fu kicks, UVic's Radical Cheerleaders will crank up the energy at the Take Back the Night march this Friday starting at Centennial Square.

The cheerleaders will accompany protesters from Bastion Square at 7 p.m. to take part in the symbolic march to speak out against violence against women.

"We should not need men's protection to walk down the street at night," said UVic student Michelle Kinney, 25, who has participated in Take Back the Night marches all over the province for the past seven years. A Radical Cheerleader herself, Kinney says the group allows her to inject her politics with artful energy.

We should not need men's protection to walk down the street at night

Started in Victoria by UVic's Kari Worton, the Radical Cheerleaders perform around the city at a variety of marches and rallies as a form of street-theatre-cum-direct-action protest, turning their opinions into chants like this one:

"Hey Ladies, get feisty,
you're so strong and mighty.
Let's claim our rights, take back the night; take to the streets and stomp our feet.
Together we'll be safe."

Although the skirts and pom poms are optional, the Radicals give the impression of spoof cheerleaders. "People think of cheerleaders as ditzy," said Worton, director of academics for the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS). She says her group subverts both the politics and aesthetics of the stereotype by including all body types, gender and race.

Politicized circus tricks are welcome in Victoria, otherwise known as the protest capital of Canada. Worton agrees. She says she formed the group as an alternative to marching through the street with a placard. "It's a form of street theatre appropriated to look at social justice issues."

The Canadian chapter of the Radical Cheerleaders started last May at the University of Winnipeg. Worton started a group on UVic's campus with Alison Theriault and Kathryn Saunders for the WTO protests last November. It has since bloomed from a squad of six to 30 members.

Radical Cheerleaders Andrea Peneycad, Alex Comtois and Rebecca Russell all agree that the group offers a way of expressing yourself politically. It brings new people and ideas to the rallies and helps to break gender stereotypes since even the men can wear the cheerleader skirts! They also like the fact that their cheers help with making sure that everyone isn't yelling the same old tired sayings. Their cheers are fresh and new, and everyone can clap along or even join in on percussion.

"I think the cheerleading is an interesting way to get across a message," said Greg Awai, UVSS Director of Finance and presently the only male cheerleader. "It's fun and it gets people excited." Awai, who has been with the group since December of last year, said the group supports causes that they believe in: cheering for queer rights, women's rights, health care and Earth Day. Awai said he can't march on Friday, because men aren't invited, but he says he doesn't have a problem with that.

Radical Cheerleading is a North American phenomena with groups in Nelson, Vancouver, Ontario, Winnipeg as well chapters south of the border. The UVic group is fairly casual and invites anyone to come and help them cheer. They're set up as a university-funded club in order to add a bit more structure to the group.

Being a part of the marches and protests also makes for great memories, Kinney said. She said she remembers a recent women's march where she walked alongside a group of single moms and their children who joined in the chants and waved pom-poms along with the cheerleaders.

Kinney said the best part of the group is "going against people who have close-minded attitudes and trying to make a difference while having fun."

The Radical Cheerleaders will be speaking their mind and swinging their hips at the upcoming Take Back the Night march on Sept. 23. The march leaves from Centennial Square around 7 p.m.

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B.C.'s first solar-grid home built in Fernwood

photo by Sarah Glen

Solar panels on the roof of David Egles' Fernwood home.

We're not granolas or rich eccentrics. We're just normal people who happen to have solar panels on the roof of their house.

by Sarah Glen

When Fernwood home owner David Egles wakes up to another sunny day in September, he gets a surge of power.

We're not talking ginseng or java, but a stiff blast of solar energy for his Forbes Street home, the province's first solar grid house.

"We're not granolas or rich eccentrics. We're just normal people who happen to have solar panels on the roof of their house," said Egles, the president of Victoria-based SolTek Solar Energy Ltd.

About 25 solar panels on the roof of the house collect energy from the sun to help run everything from the fridge to the hot water heater. The cost to convert to fossil fuel powered home to solar energy varies from home to home. Egles said he paid $20,000 to install a converter and 25 solar panels, labour included.

The Federal Department of Mines, Energy and Resources injected $10,000 into the pilot project, enough to pay for the solar panels.

Even with the added solar energy, Egles is quick to point out that the house is still tied to the B.C. hydro electricity grid.

"Right now we produce about 10 per cent of our energy through solar power," he said.

Egles said he plans to boost the efficiency of his solar-powered home by converting his hot water heater - a big suck on electricity - to natural gas. The move will free up nearly five times as much energy for the house making solar energy half the total power source.

The solar panels on the rooftop of Egles' home collect sunlight and funnel the energy to a converter in the basement. The converter then transforms the energy to the same voltage and frequency as regular electricity.

If the home doesn't use all the energy it produces, the surplus is pushed back out through the hydro lines and passed to Egles' neighbours.

"This benefits everyone," Egles said. "It's a glimpse of the future."

But B.C. Hydro, the company with a monopoly on power supply in the province , is carefully eyeing the rise in popularity of solar-powered energy.

"It's like pulling teeth to get [B.C. Hydro] to promote this type of energy," said Guy Dauncey, a local environmental activist, researcher and consultant.

And while B.C. Hydro did agree to allow Egles' solar power to share the grid with the corporation's traditional electric energy, it was with apprehension, said Egles.

"B.C. Hydro is behind the times. This type of energy is becoming more and more common," he said. "It just makes sense for them to promote it."

Even B.C. Hydro manager of communications, Cynthia Dyson, agrees that solar power isn't the primary focus of the corporation.

"It's hard to say, but [solar power] very well could be in direct competition with us in the future," she said. "But we'd prefer to see the two energies complement each other instead of compete."

B.C. Hydro is currently researching wind energy as another alternative source to hydro electricity as part of their commitment to make 10 per cent of the province's new energy 'green energy.'

Although solar panels are still very expensive compared to traditional hydro electricity, Egles foresees a time when every house will be powered by solar energy.

"I did this for my 14-month-old daughter. She's the future and it'll be her kids who will see the real benefits of solar power," he said.

A neo-eco-village renaissance offer a sustainable way of life

by Margaret Milne

There are plenty of ways to make your lifestyle more sustainable. You can choose to recycle more and consume less, or make your home and appliances more energy efficient, or decrease your reliance on fossil fuels and other non-renewable resources.

Or, if you really want a lifestyle change, you can look into eco-villages.

Eco-villages are a relatively new idea based on an ancient model. According to the Global Eco-village Network (GEN), an eco-village "is an urban or rural community whose members try to provide a high quality lifestyle without taking more from the Earth than they give back."

In the centuries before heavy industrialization and the car, many communities lived this way by necessity. Now the eco-village is back – again by necessity – to rejunevate a more simple way of living on the Earth.

Call it a neo-eco-village renaissance. In the past ten years, eco-villages have been created across the world by people hoping to recreate a sustainable way of life.

There are almost as many types of eco-villages as there are eco-villages themselves. Within this diversity, however, three common themes appear: ecology, community and spirituality. Eco-villages focus on ecology by designing their communities to have a minimum impact on the land.

They're often built using sustainable building materials; members grow as much of their own food as possible, and limit the use of cars within the village.

They foster a sense of community through joint decision-making on issues affecting the village, or through community-wide celebrations and festivals.

Finally, many eco-villages find a sense of spirituality arises from their close contact to nature and their work to protect the Earth.

Various forms of eco-villages are found all over the world. GEN boasts 280 registered members across Europe, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

Three eco-village communities in British Columbia have registered with GEN, and there are two more in the works on Vancouver Island alone: One United Resource (OUR) Ecovillage in Shawnigan Lake, and Talking Cedars in Tofino.

Talking Cedars is an innovative project designed to overcome the large amount of work involved in creating an ecovillage. Land purchase, zoning applications and legal proceedings demand time. Somebody has to convince planners, architects and government officials of the unorthodox plans. While many people are interested in the lifestyle promoted by ecovillages, not everyone has the time or the resources to do the work.

The Talking Cedars project engineers hired a three-person team to get their project off the ground: a land owner, an architect and sustainable communities consultant, Guy Dauncey.

Rather than starting an eco-village in the traditional grassroots way, these three hope to create an ecologically sound community which others can then chose to move into and make their own. None of the initial team will likely live in the community; as Dauncey says, "I want to go make more eco-villages!"

Eco-villages are not for everyone. For students especially, the opportunity to create or move into such a permanent community may seem far in the future. But for people interested in this lifestyle, information and opportunities abound on the Internet. Dauncey's home page (www.earthfuture.com) has information on Talking Cedars and other sustainable community projects, and the GEN web site has a section on how to volunteer at ecovillages around the world (www.gaia.org/howtohelp/volunteers.asp).

And who knows - perhaps by the time today's students graduate, pre-made ecovillages like Talking Cedars will be an option for those who want to make sustainable living their way of life.

EDITORIAL:

A time for the extreme

It doesn't seem logical that a desire to protect old growth forest could end in violence and persecution, but that is exactly what has happened to many protesters who are fighting to save the forests of Elaho Valley.

You may have heard about a little skirmish that took place last summer. A group of eight peaceful activists were attacked in the Stoltman Wilderness, just south of Lava Creek, by a large group of disgruntled loggers employed by International Forest Products (Interfor). Some of the activists ended up in the hospital, and only five of the loggers were charged.

In August a group of five activists, calling themselves the Artamus collective, set up a blockade to prevent loggers from getting at some of the oldest trees in Canada.

For eight days they refused to move. Then the RCMP, accompanied by an emergency response team armed with M16s, cut the ropes that held up their small platform at the top of some 400-year-old Douglas fir trees. Four of the five were arrested and charged with mischief, intimidation and obstructing a police officer.

Just last week a 72-year-old woman named Betty Krawczyk and Elaho protester Barney Kern were handed one year jail terms – with no time off for good behavior – for defying an injunction and blocking another logging road in the Stoltman Wilderness.
During the trial, Robert Fleming, a lawyer for one of the accused, argued that Justice Parret who was presiding over the trial held an extreme bias against the protesters.

But is it Parret or our NDP provincial government who are tired of protesters? This is not the first time Betty was arrested nor is it the first time she has been jailed for actions relating to protesting. Just last month she was arrested for camping, tent and all, on the lawn of the legislature. Her demands were simple. She wanted to talk with Premier Ujjal Dosanjh about change in forest policy. But apparently our Premier could not make it outside.

Instead, a team of legislature security and the police removed Betty and her tent from the grounds. It is true that perhaps downtown Victoria is not the best place to camp. Perhaps a forest would be more suitable. Yes, someplace peaceful and far enough away from the city to escape the smog but close enough to travel to for a weekend. Now wouldn't that be nice.

There are such parks, like the Clendenning Park, a 30,000 hectare area of land now protected from logging. But even Michael Coon, B.C. government land use planner, admitted that the public was not consulted to establish the Clendenning area as a park as per usual practices. Instead only stakeholders were invited to the meeting.

International Forest Products (Interfor) holds-one of the largest contracts (ISO 14001 Certificate) entitling them to 2.9 million hectares of land with an annual harvest of 3.3 million cubic metres of wood. According to Interfor, the last five years have seen little or no profits come from its $370 billion in sales. At the same time WCWC said in their 1999 educational report that preserving the Elaho for eco-tourism would generate $614 million annually. If such an easy solution is within our grasp, why are people being beaten and imprisoned?

Instead of a one-time profit through the logging of old growth forest why not create an industry for posterity, the forest that keeps on giving, if you will.

The same WCWC report states that the Federal government could secure the old growth in the Elaho at a cost of $10 million and make it accessible to the public as a federal park. Perhaps all that it takes for this to happen, as Betty Krawczyk said, is for people to do extreme things.

i CAN't BELIEVE theyre bringing Her Here!!
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POOL
the fate of elo Grandma Betty.
06437
Ulrich Kuster

LETTERS:

Coke club goes eco-friendly

A letter in last week's *Martlet* raised a serious question regarding the environmental impact of the use of paper cups in our great Club Day Coke give-away. The Executive of the UVic Democratic Assembly of Coke Drinkers would like to take this opportunity to admit our error, throw ourselves on the mercy of the UVic community, and beg forgiveness.

Clearly, the use of a bio-degradable product made from a recycled renewable resource to serve a beverage poured from a recyclable container was a horrific assault on the environment. Thus, thanks to that letter, we at the Coke Club have decided that, from this point forward, we will use only styrofoam cups. This would seem to solve a myriad of problems presented by paper cups: we won't cause the destruction of any trees, and best of all, since these styrofoam cups will be around for the next, oh, thousand years or so, we won't have to worry about them rotting and getting all yucky.

After all, the thought that it is worth the disposal of a few paper cups to start a movement aimed at fighting the corporatization of an academic institution, ending the Pepsification of the university, and restoring the fundamental right of all UVic students to chose what they drink is clearly naïve.

Somebody'd better tell our seven hundred new members.

Keir D. Wilmut
Minister of Finance
UVic Democratic Assembly of Coke Drinkers

Kudos to the Martlet

Congratulations on an extraordinary issue ! I have read the Martlet for over 30 years and the Sept 14th is issue was truly outstanding.

Jane P. Brett

Commerce Dept. declares war

Upon first hearing *the Martlet* had requested that the Commerce Department develop a marketing plan for expansion, I laughed. Then I laughed some more. Finally, after I repeatedly asked if this request was a joke, I sobered up.

Was this the same *Martlet* that had accused the Commerce Department from everything from racism to sexism to (oh golly!) being Capitalists? The same *Martlet* that only last month ran a cartoon depicting business women as promiscuous (since the *Martlet* is not a part of the business community, maybe it was an observation of the new "business-oriented" *Martlet* staff?)

This paper of left wing , anti-corporate thought was asking its nemesis "How do we sell out, and become capitalists?" (Damn it, I wish Ayn Rand were here.)

Forget ideological allegiances for a moment: Everyone on campus (right wing, centrist or demented) should be angry. This plan to expand not only violates the paper's philosophy, but also its mandate as a voice of UVic students, not the world at large.

For the Commerce Department, and everyone else who rolls their eyes at your antics, this is our middle finger from us to you hypocrites: Fuck you, *Martlet*.

M. Collins

AIDS Walk 2000

Since 1995, Canadians have hit the streets in a show of solidarity for local AIDS/HIV support organizations in their community. On Sunday, Sept. 24, everyone is welcome to join in and help show we care about people living with HIV and AIDS. Starting at 10 a.m. from Fisherman's Wharf Park, the AIDS walk will make its way through the streets of Victoria. You can walk, run, cycle, or roll with a group of friends, a partner, or on your own. The goal of this walk is to raise awareness and funding for local AIDS organizations. Over 70,000 participants have attended these walks across Canada over the past years. From Victoria to St. John's they have raised over 15 million dollars, all going into the local area's groups.

You can get pledges to support this cause by being a registered walker. Registration forms are available from the UVic Pride Society and other organizations on and off campus. For more information you can call 384-2366 or check out the web page www.aidswalkcananda.com

A number of organizations from UVic are participating, namely the Pride Office, the Women's Centre, the Native Students Union and the UVSS Board of Directors. These organizations recognize the Importance of the issues surrounding AIDS and HIV, and have pledged support for this year's walk.

The event this year promises to be strong in Victoria and the participating UVSS organizations hope a large number of students will participate. So get out in the fresh air, wear a red ribbon over your heart and prepare to participate on Sunday. Showing support through this walk is important for the community and the movement to support people with AIDS and HIV. It demonstrates that you care and are willing to learn more about this cause. Let's make this year's walk the best attended and pledged ever.

Ed Johnson

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DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 4:30 P.M. (SHARP). DROP OFF COVER LETTLER, RESUME, PORTFOLIO (IF SO DESIRED) AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION TO THE MARTLET OFFICE, B011.

[2000/2001]
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Letters: *the martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergradate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by email and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. **Deadline** for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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Cheering for athletes, the beaver and a flag

What prompts us to cheer blindly for people we don't and probably won't ever know?

by Rachel Walmsley

I imagine you've all spent a few minutes lately glued to the tv, cheering on complete strangers for the sake of a little red leaf.

I'm talking about all of those athletes representing Canada, as Sydney has a go at hosting the last Olympic Games of the millennium. Or the first, depending on your point of view.

Now it's possible too that you've completely missed the Olympic television experience, but that's pretty unlikely. With all the major networks proudly on location, even little ol' CBC has their floating studio happily anchored just off Sydney's Central Quay.

And then there are all those patriotic, inspiring commercials we keep seeing. Even local media are running updates and those ever-so-competitive medal count charts. And then there are the interviews with the local athletes' friends and family, to make us feel ever so warm & fuzzy.

As 20 per cent of Canada's Olympic athletes have ties to the Victoria area, some of you may have personal reasons for cheering. But what about those of us without a direct connection?

What prompts us to cheer blindly for people we don't and probably won't ever know?

Back to the little red leaves. Patriotism – they're Canadian, we're Canadian. Sure, makes perfect sense.

Well, actually no it doesn't – we as a nation are one of the most apathetic populations out there. We're not generally competitive, and we tend not to be openly patriotic while at home. Actually, a lot of the time it seems like Canadians are a little embarrassed that they're actually Canadian. I guess if we lived a little further away from the massive cultural shadow of the US, our sense of national self might be a bit stronger.

But living next to the wonder that is America may have actually helped us define ourselves. According to John Gray, in his play *The Canadian Essence*, "the Canadian identity... first appears as a negative image, something you define more by what it's not than by what it is." Right! Exactly! So what are we? Well, we're not American, that's what!

But that's not really helpful when you get right down to it. So what does it really mean to be Canadian? Well, there are the beer ads, but I think even hard core Molson fans, deep down, hope that our national identity can't be summed up by a mere beer commercial. No offense to Joe...

But defining Canadian culture is one of the more difficult things to do, given our nation's incredible diversity. First of all, Canada is built on multiculturalism. We have two official languages, English and French, with over fifty aboriginal languages and dozens of others introduced through immigration. Thus, cultural backgrounds shift and vary depending on what region you are in, making it impossible to pin down one culture on all of Canada.

"A Canadian is a person who is juggling more than one identity, in a land whose physical borders are indefensible, in a world in which identities are shifting and physical borders are irrelevant," says Gray.

But if you need to put some more concrete words to it, we're typically a hardworking, modest, conservative bunch. We're tolerant, reserved and internationally renowned for our politeness. We're open-minded and compassionate, with a tendency towards compromise– the world's negotiators and peacekeepers.

We're unassuming, honest, and laid back. We have a ridiculously attired national police force and a national broadcasting station we don't want to lose but also don't want to watch. We believe in democracy, although most of us still can't be bothered to vote. And we say 'eh' a lot.

Overall, we're good neighbours to the world, except of course if you're an American staring over the fence at all of us (obviously) backwoods folks. But maybe we should be proud. After all, it's not easy riding a moose to school, through the untamed wilderness, in 12 feet of snow, year-round...

But in reality, we're a pretty great country. We value our independence, as well as our family and friends. We love hockey, and sports in general, although a lot of us would rather watch from the couch...I mean, 'chesterfield'. We produce good beer, and good music, and a hell of a lot of grain products. We're (somehow) immensely proud of our nation's beaver, and we make a fine breakfast condiment out of tree sap.

There have been some great people and inventions coming out of Canada for ages now, but we tend to forget about all that. Must be our modesty.

As for the rest of the world, everybody likes us just fine. All you have to do is travel a little to see it. Of course you're going to get ribbed a bit for that little bag you've got stuck on your Canadian flag, but that's to be expected.

It's funny, really, when you consider how apathetic we usually are about politics and nationalism, that we so proudly wear our national emblem around the globe. I imagine it's because most of us are secretly terrified that we might somehow be mistaken for Americans. Sometimes you even run across flag-wearing Americans with the same fear...

Overall, Canada is renowned as a place to visit, and a place to live. Millions of people every year crowd across our national borders for quick visits, or to permanently relocate. The United Nations recently ranked Canada as the best place in the world to live. Not one of, but the best, the very best!

How's your modesty now?

Oh, yeah... Go Canada Go!

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Spotlight on *RicePaper*: an

by Gillian Jerome

The headlines read: "Sexy Asian men. Chinatown ghosts. Fear and Loathing on East Pender." It's not exactly the kind of journalism you'll find in theTimes Colonist.. Instead the stories are fun and feisty reads by some of Vancouver's most talented writers.

You'll find them in the latest issue of *RicePaper* – a new voice for Asian Canadians. It's a 52-page glossy magazine produced quarterly in Vancouver by a group of volunteer writers and journalists who juggle its writing, editing and design with full-time jobs. *The Martlet* caught up with *RicePaper*'s Editor-in-chief Jim Wong-Chu in Vancouver. Jim is a Chinatown historian, a poet and photographer. Jim and Andy Quan edited Canada's first anthology of Chinese-Canadian poetry called *Swallowing Clouds*, published by Arsenal Pulp Press.

Martlet: How did *RicePaper* get started?

RicePaper began as a newsletter. We wanted to communicate with our membership in the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop. As it grew and evolved, *RicePaper* seemed to have taken on a life of its own. A couple of years ago there was an opportunity to access some funding from the Canada Council's writing and publishing department for magazines that completed a quantum leap from newsletter to magazine format.

Martlet: Is *RicePaper* marketed to the Asian community as a dialogue between its members or to the mainstream community at large?

It's marketed to people who have an interest in us. We have found that a lot of people, including many outside of the Asian community such as academics, government departments, social scientists and others had been looking for ways to study, monitor or simply learn about the Asian community.

We are unique because we cover the Asian Canadian cultural arts community. It is the 'Canadianized' Asian community. My definition of 'Canadianized' includes those immigrants who have settled in Canada for at least 15 to 20 years and also those who are local born, of which many are at least six to eight generations in Canada. There are few other Asian Canadian publications. The Canadianized Asian community is predominately English speaking and has assimilated into mainstream culture. As such they read one or both of the major English language newspapers and are largely invisible.

Much of the contemporary literature, dance, visual and performance art is produced by this segment of the population. It is struggling for a venue to express itself and to articulate a voice that is important and needs to be heard.

Martlet: With so many Chinese in the community who speak mainly their first language, why did *RicePaper* choose to publish only in English?

The majority loses their mother tongue by the second or third generation. It is important to publish in English. It's the mainstrean that has difficulty with us. Printing in English is a way to open dialogue with those who are in power over our lives yet have little understanding of us.

Martlet: You've identified what you call the Chinatown crime story narrative popularized by mainstream media. Can you tell me more about how this stereotype operates in the news?

Back in the early 80s, as part of the training for a rookie journalist working for the Vancouver Sun, the editor would require a Chinatown crime story. Inevitably they would find me as most people in the community would ignore them. Somehow I would end up spending a few hours trying to convince them that although there is crime in the Chinese community, it is no more or less than in any other segment of the city. The Chinatown youth gang problem is more of a social problem that a criminal one. We are dealing with a lot of at-risk kids. The outside community presumes that they know [the Chinese community] or alternately, they think we are impenetrable and inscrutable. The community is not that homogeneous, there's not a community where we know everything about each other or they think by not giving the answers that fit their question, we are hiding the truth from them.

These are all the stereotypes that outsiders assume and it feeds on itself. In the end, when they submit the finished piece to the editor, it often ends up being chopped and rearranged into a Chinatown crime story anyway. The media, a reflection of the mainstream, has a certain perception that they impose on minority societies and social groups they don't understand. A case in point is the recent *Monster House* issue. There were daily stories about how all this Hong Kong money is coming and buying up the best neighbourhoods, building monster houses and chopping down trees. In essence, destroying a way of life for the status quo. As you know, outsiders have no way to tell Asians apart, even those who have been here for many generations. So everyone is branded as "One of those Hong Kong Chinese." Do you know that the media takes turns on the minority communities? Up to the early 90s it was the Chinese. Now it's time for the East Indian and Vietnamese. The headlines are more often East Indian and Vietnamese gangs and drug dealers creating havoc in Vancouver neighbourhoods.

Martlet: Asian gangs seem to get a lot of media attention. What's the reality behind the story?

Since the late 70s the [B.C.] school system has taken all the non-English speaking students regardless of age and crammed them into English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. What they have not taken into consideration is that the school system they came from was often as good or better than what they are receiving... they are known to excel in non-English curriculum such as math and sciences. Their only deficiency is in communicating in English and because they cannot adequately express themselves, they are most often put in a lower grade which causes frustration and boredom.

A voice for the up and c

Because they are put together in an artificial and closed environment where they bond and seek comfort in their native language instead of integrating them into the regular school environment, they form cliques. The school administration perceives this as a threat and calls them gangs. They get picked on which causes them to seek safety in numbers... so this whole concept of Asian youth gangs grew out if this. It's a social problem. The police seemed to encourage this branding as it has used Asian youth gangs as a justification for a need to hiring and bolstering of the force. Based on the wild and baseless predictions of the high rate of gang recruitment by the police, we should have witnessed an extraordinary population explosion of Asian youth gangs by now but it never happened. Have you ever heard of Asian criminal gangs in the universities? It doesn't happen; it's a phase in these people's lives... as I said before, a social problem.

Martlet: Is writing and publishing by Asian Canadians the only way to bust up these stereotypes?

To change attitudes, we have to provide information. We felt that the only way we could make any meaningful change was to publish books where we are allowed to talk about ourselves. A good example would be Wayson Choy's *The Jade Peony* and Denise Chong's *The Concubine's Children*... before these books came out there was really no way that the mainstream world to learn about us or access [our stories]. For the first time an authentic voice can be

photo by Gillian Jerome

Jim Wong-Chu on the porch of his Vancouver home.

nterview with Jim Wong-Chu

heard.

Just like *The Joy Luck Club* did; a Chinese-American mother-daughter relationship is similar to an Italian-American mother-daughter or a Jewish-American mother-daughter. It's universal. Yes, we are breaking down these barriers by publishing... we're are also trying to do this in *RicePaper*.

Martlet: What sort of attention has *RicePaper* been given from the mainstream press?

I feel we're attracting a lot of attention. The writing and the design is acceptable as a mainstream publication quality . It has given us a real boost. The cover of the latest one, 'The Yellow Revolution,' shows we're talking about a real clear revolution going on.

Martlet: A couple of times you referred to the distinction between front and back power in the media, meaning ownership versus employees. Do you think Asian ownership of the press is vital to shifting perceptions of 'otherness'?

In 1948 there was an article in the news about a Chinese war veteran moving into the West End of Vancouver and it created a row. People were reported saying "What next? They're taking our jobs." They were concerned that decent white people would not want to rent in that same building because a chinaman lived there.

Sound familiar? There's a glass ceiling. Even in the present there are things forbidden, lines not to cross. After a hundred and fifty years in Canada we are still perceived as outsiders. The media often uses the 'them and us' when referring to its cultural minorities. The newsrooms is a good example. It is one area that hardly reflects the reality of population mix, especially in the

photo by Jim Wong-Chu

From a series entitled "chinatown ghosts" published in the spring 2000 issue of *RicePaper*.

ming generation of Asian Canadians

critical decision making positions. What are the chances for an accurate portrayal?

Martlet: Case in point with the *San Francisco Examiner*. [In March, the Thang family bought *the Examiner* from the Hearst Corporation. The local editorial staffs of both the old *Examiner* and *the Chronicle* have began a vicious and racially-tinged campaign to discredit the new Asian-American ownership.]

The San Francisco paper is a very good example. You'd think that San Francisco is very liberal city, that after 150 years these sorts of intolerance would have disappeared. A lot of Asians were caught off guard by the reaction of a Chinese-American family's purchase of a major American newspaper. A reaction so ugly and infantile. We've always known that we have to be twice as good and work twice as hard to prove ourselves and be accepted... no matter how many generations you're here, you're still treated as an outsider.

Martlet: Do you see racism encoded in the language in mainstream print?

Journalism upholds itself with the best values: freedom of the press and so on. No matter what, it is hard to escape a writer's bias, intended or not intended. That bias is sometimes based on ignorance. The demographics of Vancouver have changed tremendously during the last decade. Media has yet to catch up. Over ninety percent of the editors of B.C. newspapers are middle-aged and white and have very little contact with their minority readers. How would they be able to understand these communities and stifle their bias?

Martlet: I once went to a Canadian Association of Journalists' seminar called 'Breaking into Ethnic Communities.' The title itself suggests those communities are not only outside but insular. It also suggests stories from those communities have value for the mainstream. What's your view of this relationship?

For Vancouver alone nearly 40 per cent of the population is visible minorities. The demographics are changing. When the Vancouver Courier was embarking on restructuring their editorial content, I was brought in to talk to the publisher and editors about bringing minorities into the paper... I told them that many of the articles written in the past are either shallow or down right insulting. If they want to gain support from that segment of readers, they must make their future articles both informative, interesting and challenging.

Martlet: Is it tough for people in the Chinese community to find work in journalism in Vancouver?

I know one woman who has interviewed every head of state in Southeast Asia. Her résumé is five pages long. She's a global journalist par excellence but she can't get a job at a newspaper in Vancouver .

Martlet: Why?

Either she's overqualified or they're scared of her. I don't have an answer. But I am aware of a number of highly qualified journalists who have immigrated from Asia and cannot find jobs... even the young Asians journalists who are trying to create careers in today's media, are becoming less than satisfied with the roles they are given.

Martlet: And with many of these young Asian Canadians volunteering to publish *RicePaper*, it's obviously important.

RicePaper is a thinking person's magazine. If you're culturally aware or socially aware, *RicePaper* offers a lot of content. In America, there are courses on Asian American culture. They offer courses from elementary school all the way to university. Most of the minority population come out with a very strong awareness of who they are... in Canada, very little of this is in the curriculum. So we have generations graduating with very little cultural awareness and sense of identity. *RicePaper* hopes to be a part of a new awareness. The more you read *RicePaper*, the more you'll understand. As we say: Rice you eat. *RicePaper* you read. Feast on both.

To Hakuhoji

by Hanako Masutani

"You know it's summer when the cicadas are crying," Kayo's grandmother had said to her while folding a thin mint green t-shirt into Kayo's bag.

They sat still for a moment afterward and listened, their knees folded under them on the bamboo matting, the room dusty with sun. "Don't think about your mother while you're on vacation." After another moment she added "in Nara it will be even hotter. Be careful. Wear your hat."

Kayo ran her hands up the long dry grass where the shells of cicada gripped tightly. She felt their hard hollow bodies like small paper lanterns under her hands and thought of them almost as companions in the field. The two Japanese women ahead of her were still quite far away. Walking again to catch up, Kayo saw one woman tap the other's shoulder to stop her in the yellow grass. The grass was so tall Kayo saw only the womens' shoulders and black hair under their hats.

A bird flying overhead saw the snake being traced in the field and the three round brims stopped along it with a space between them. The woman who had her hand on the other's shoulder unfolded a piece of paper from her bag. Another delay. Soon no one would see the temple, as it would be closed by five o'clock.

"Tama, isn't it the other way?" the woman asked. It was the voice of a mother.

The daughter put one hand on her white cotton hat and took the paper from her mother with the other. "No, this field is right. See, this square is the field. That bigger square is the park we were just in."

"But this can't be the way to Hakuhoji. Everyone can't walk through this field like this."

"It's fine." Three dark ravens settled on the blue tile roof of the farmhouse to which the field belonged. "There might be an easier way, but this is the shortest. Look, we're almost at a clear path." Kayo tried to look beyond the women after hearing this and saw a dirt path between her field and the next, beginning just to their left. She had been frightened for a moment that she'd picked the wrong women to follow, but now felt slightly reassured. After a long day at the museum, she had wanted the little walk outside, even if it were still hot.

Kayo liked Nara. She'd never been there before, but it seemed the right place to end her trip. It was old and quiet and different. When she walked out of Nara station the first afternoon, she saw a deer press its nose against a downtown restaurant window. She found out later that the tourists fed the deer hard cakes baked especially for them. At night, someone said, the deer all slept in a fenced-in park on the top of a Nara hill. Kayo watched the deer while eating her lunch in the park. She was careful not to let them see her open ice-cream sandwiches, which, she'd discovered, they would chase her for.

Kayo was staying at a small hotel right beside the deer-favoured park. It was an old Japanese home that had been converted into a bed and breakfast. Her one-person room looked out onto the central rock garden. She wondered if the perfect circles in the gravel were tended to while she was sleeping. She thought she could hear a tired old gardener raking everything smooth and clean in the night.

She imagined running through the hard grass until she came to them and telling them she was lost, that she'd been following them already for about 20 minutes.

Every morning she took a table to herself and ate what the hotel served: grilled salmon, hot sticky rice, dried seaweed in a plastic package and soy sauce. The seaweed she picked up with her fingers, too tired for the fine hashi work that her grandmother required.

While eating her breakfast in the dining room, she watched the 15 minute morning drama that she had watched with her grandmother in Tokyo for the past four months. The heroine was still far from finding her hero.

After breakfast Kayo walked alone to the temples and museums she had seen in her textbooks on Japanese culture. Everything was bigger in real life, the temple wood darker, the way farther.

"See, I told you. We're not far now."

The two women had started forward again. Kayo too made her way to the dirt path, touching her hat from time to time as if trying to keep it from flying off in a sudden wind. But the late afternoon was calm. The cicada cried, and the sun rested on the tips of the grass field. It was near five o'clock.

For a moment Kayo thought about catching up to the women. She imagined running through the hard grass until she came to them and telling them she was lost, that she'd been following them already for about 20 minutes. Maybe if they 1 together they'd be able to get to Hakuhoji before closing time.

As Kayo was considering this, sounds of a piano came from the farmhouse.

The mother stopped again, stopping Tama as well as Kayo.

"What's wrong, Mom?"

"Don't you hear the piano?"

"Of course. It's almost five. We should hurry." The mother followed the daughter, but only to the house, where she stopped once more. "This is beautiful music. Let's listen."

"I thought you wanted to see Hakuhoji."

The mother bent her head upwards, a hand on her hat, as if to tell the time from the position of the sun. Kayo looked at her watch. Less than 10 minutes left.

"Do you know what song this is?" The mother looked at the house and then across the field over her left shoulder. One almost wondered whether she was referring to the piano music or the pulsing string sound made by the cicada. Kayo followed the woman's-gaze, saw the gold on the tops of the grass and then ducked quickly when she realized the woman might see her if she decided to look over her right shoulder as well. But the woman stopped back at the house, looking now at the ravens tucking and untucking their wings.

"It's Chopin." After a moment's thought the daughter seemed pleased with her answer.

Her mother laughed. "It's the first song I really learned to play."

The music sounded lonely to Kayo, playing out to the field and the insects and the birds. There was a clear, small echoing to it that made one absolutely sure it wasn't a recording.

"I used to practice this song after school, until your grandmother called me to dinner."

"Mom, it's hot just standing here. Can we get going?"

"Tama. Sit down with me in the shade here." She walked to the side of the house, bent some of the tall grass to sit down on and patted the ground.

continued on page 14

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Film Review:

The Filth and the Fury
directed by Julian Temple

by Adam Jones

United Kingdom + working class + stolen guitars + safety pins + anarchy + loud offensive rock + spit = The Sex Pistols.
This bio-pic film shows the Pistols from beginning to end, from filth to fury, in all their savage glory. The movie is good enough and detailed enough to cater to both the virgin and Marquis de Sade levels of Sex Pistols fan.

Far surpassing documentaries like *The Great Rock 'n Roll Swindle,' The Filth and the Fury* gives us a great portrait of the Pistols. We get interviews, family members, pictures, sound, raw concert footage and plenty of spit. Narrated by members of band, we get their uncut versions of the story through past and present interviews.

The filmmakers have done some nice work here, augmenting what would otherwise be just a good documentary with some subtle and not-so-subtle effects throughout. Keeping all the band member's faces in the dark in present-day interviews counts as subtle, while running many of their incompetent asshole-of-a-manager's sound bites under an inflatable S & M mask counts as not-so-subtle but incredibly funny.

We're also treated to a lot of early concert footage, and to the Pistols thoughts on the band, the punk movement and their singular takes on the events that took place.

Johnny Rotten is clearly shown to be the leader of the Pistols and the soul and main brain of the band. Some of the film's best footage is of Johnny speaking about the troubles and the eventual death of bassist Sid Vicious, while stifling tears and sobs. This is the best film about the Pistols so far and well worth your hard-earned, working class cash. I give this movie four-and-a-half punky Queens out of a possible five.

Fan Tan a better bet live than recorded

photo by Shoshanah Waxman

Fan Tan Alley's Craig Frazer crooning for a lively Vertigo audience

Gig Review: Fan Tan Alley cd release

by Shoshanah Waxman

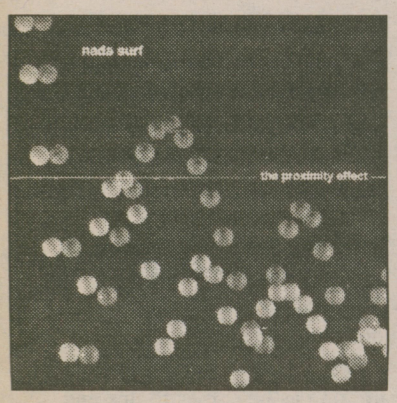
Listening to Fan Tan Alley's latest cd in my living room, trying to relive last night, I realize the extreme difference between live and recorded music. Make no mistake, FTA is definitely a most capable band. Their new release, *Pennies in the Parking Lot*, has a great sound, but there was definitely a vibe I got from them live that I don't get from the recording. Victoria's own FTA released their second cd last Saturday at Vertigo, and a throng of fans turned out to cheer them on. The band – composed of guitarist/lead singer Craig Fraser, high-energy bassist Matt Schmitz, and drummer Jamie Kaufman – took the stage on the heels of opening band Limestone.

FTA played a mix of songs from their 1999 release *Happy as Pie*, stuff from *Pennies* – including their catchy first single 'Coming for You' – and some rollicking covers of EMF's 'Unbelievable' and Young MC's 'Bust a Move.' The band played a flawless hour-and-a-half set with one encore. At various points bassist Matt Schmitz (aka poJAZ) ventured onto the dance floor, playing and daring eager fans to reach into his pants' pockets for the free cds the band was giving away. Towards the end, when Craig announced they had only a few songs to go, scattered fans drew together on the dance floor but only a disappointing few had the mojo to dance to what could have been a great finale.

Their sound is clean, capable and wholly identifiable with the indie rock scene. There were moments during the show – some fleeting, others a bit more lasting– when I felt something very promising. They have talent, which is more than can be said for many of the top-selling artists these days, but they also have room for improvement, especially in transferring their live energy and passion into their recordings.

Pennies in the Parking Lot is on sale now, and their tune 'Stunned' is receiving airplay on Extreme 107.3.

nada surf: the proximity effect



nada surf
the proximity effect
mardev records

by Reggie Mantle

I'm almost, but not always positive, that people jumped on the MTV pleasure barge of sound in '96 to rock out to the song 'popular'.

I'm almost, but not always positive, that people (mostly guys) loved the video for that song (mostly because of the cheerleaders).

I'm almost, but not always positive, that people dismissed Matthew Caws, Daniel Lorca and Ira Elliot as the sappy kid brothers of Weezer, and that 'heart-on-your-sleeve' lyrics work better on sweaters. I'm almost, but not always positive, that Elektra Records' inability to find a 'hit single' from the 14 tracks of pop mastery, and subsequent decision not to release it domestically in '98 despite its critical success in Europe, helped everyone forget nada surf.

I'm almost, but not always positive, that the release of this record on the band's own label will prevent it from the commodification upon which the complacent music buyer thrives, thus making it exclusive to people who never forgot nada surf. People who appreciate good fucking music.

I'm almost, but not always positive, that if nothing else, people will be taken by the guitar hooks, layers of wurlitzer, sweet vocal harmonies, and biting colloquial words directed at people (mostly guys) who sang along to 'popular' and liked the video (mostly because of the cheerleaders).

I'm almost, but not always positive, that there are too many underappreciated follow-up records, that nada surf expands the listener's attention, that *the proximity effect* (with or without reason) is close to something. Something people need.

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To Hakuhoji: more cicadas and piano music

"If we don't get moving now we really won't be able to see your temple."

"And I want to be back in time for dinner. I promised I'd play tennis."

"Just sit here a moment."

Kayo sat back in the grass where she was. She could have continued walking and waved hello to the women, as though she'd just been coming along that way. She could have said, "nice day, isn't it?" in the little Japanese she knew, and walked along the dirt path to Hakuhoji. But Kayo had already been to several temples on her own. She'd felt the solitude of the stone statues, smiling with closed eyes, and felt her smallness by dark, devil-guarded temple gates.

She turned her attention to a cicada shell on a piece of grass in front of her. She slipped it off the top of the grass. As the piano notes walked out into the afternoon, Kayo wondered about the soul of the cicada, then realized it wasn't dead. The cicada was clinging to some other tree, perhaps a part of this loud other song supporting the piano.

Maybe, she thought, she was like the cicada in her hand. Left behind, whole in appearance, empty. Maybe she would still find herself alive in some other place, in Tokyo with her grandmother, or back home in Canada, where she'd escaped from in the first place. Maybe she wasn't as completely gone as her mother yet.

Kayo looked back toward the mother and daughter and noticed a strange thing. The mother sat with both her legs folded to her left side, the way many older Japanese women did out of polite habit, even when alone. Tama lay on her mother's knees with her eyes closed.

In front of them were large glass doors to a bedroom through which Kayo could see the straight back of a girl at her piano. The strange part was that a mirror on the dresser beside the piano was at just the right height to reflect Tama's face. Kayo hadn't realized she'd come so close to the mother and daughter. From where she sat she could see Tama's long straight hair lying on her shoulders. There was no hat on her head anymore. She could see the blue of the mother's shirt behind the younger woman's head.

Kayo parted the grass and crawled forward. She felt sure none of the women would turn around. The mother was listening quietly, the soles of her white tennis shoes toward Kayo. The daughter's eyes were shut. Either Tama was sleeping, or could think of no other way to bear her irritation at not moving ahead.

Closer, Kayo could see Tama's mother's hands. One hand tapped the fingering of the piano piece on her knee. She seemed to remember all of it. When the actual player of the piece made a mistake and had to repeat a passage, the tapping fingers unbent and rested patiently.

The other hand lay further down along her daughter's arm. This last hand on turquoise cotton was still. Sun shone on the long fingers. Her own hands still cupping the cicada shell, Kayo smelt the sweetness of the dirt and grass.

She put the cicada carefully back on the grass to her side. Then, without understanding why, Kayo brought one hand toward the resting hand in the mirror. She had gotten so near that it looked like her hand was touching the mother's. She followed the curve of the girl's body until the mirror ran out, and then brought it back again to rest on the hand. Kayo knew her arm would get tired held up long as it was, yet she continued to tap her fingers along the mother-daughter reflection, in imitation of the piano hand for a while. She tapped fortissimo and allegro, and then soft and adagio. Then she made her hand still again. The birds on the farmhouse roof pecked together at something between the tiles.

Kayo had her mother's hands. Looking down at her own fingers on airplanes, on trains, in her grandmother's living room, she saw the large veins and baby fingernails of her mother. Kayo's mother had said, "I've always thought that the most contemplative-looking part of me were my hands."

The piano music stopped. The mother replaced her hat. Consequently, Kayo's hand was left strangely small and floating above the daughter's shoulder in the mirror. Aware that Tama might suddenly open her eyes, Kayo quickly took her hand out of the picture.

"It's nice to hear mistakes like that, isn't it, Tama. We listen to too many professionals. You know they'll play everything perfectly, so there's never any anticipation. It's so much more moving when it's imperfect." The hat was almost completely straight when the mother stopped her hands upon it. "Do you hear something, Tama?" Tama pushed herself up off her mother's knees and stood up, brushing the bits of dead grass off her legs.

"We're not staying for another song, are we?"

"Listen. Do you hear that rustling?" Kayo, who had been moving backward to her former distance, stopped. The cicada seemed to be pulsing faster, and the sun shining hotter. She no longer knew why she was there, or what she was doing.

"You know, I bet it's one of those deer wandered out here. I bet one followed us from the park after we gave it all those cookies."

All three women listened hard. "Do you have any of those cookies left?" the mother asked her daughter. "We could try to catch the deer and take it back with us."

Kayo decided to lie down flat on her stomach, even though the noise might give her away. It was definitely better than having the two women see her sitting behind them. Small hard bugs flicked themselves onto her face. A bent blade of grass stabbed into her right calf. But she lay still.

I will stay here, she thought, until they are safely praying to the statues of Hakuhoji.

Pre-Preformance with Michael Biscoe

by Julius Davies

8:00 p.m., Tuesday night. In three hours an acoustic/electronic ensemble, Q, a Toronto import, will headline at the Neptune Soundbar. Unfortunately I know nothing about these people, nor nothing about electronic, techno, or house music.

I may be the wrong man for this reporting job.

I do, however, have a pen, some paper, and am sitting across from a man loosely connected, in an interesting way, to this event. His name is Michael Biscoe. His connection is thus: for the hour precedent to Q's headlining, Michael Biscoe has been enlisted to warm up Neptune's dance floor. He has been the exclusive opening act for Q everytime they've visited Victoria.

What this means is that in two hours Michael Biscoe will find himself in a heart-clenching, anxiety-ridden panic. He will be standing on the wrong side of a mixer and two turn-tables. Before him, an empty dance floor. Neptune Soundbar's empty dance floor.

I proffer coffee. He initially declines. "I don't want to have the shakes when I go on."

Filling the dance floor is not the problem for Biscoe, as one might think. Que sera, sera; maybe the crowd wants to dance, maybe not.

For Biscoe, the hard part, the panic, comes from having a centimetre of record left, rapidly depleting, and not exactly knowing what to do next. Due to the nature of the job, a dj may find themselves in this predicament hundreds of times in the fare of an average evening. Perhaps akin to Tarzan panicking as he comes to the end of his vine.

I finally convince him to accept a small coffee. We sit down in Quan Valdez's courtyard, and Biscoe is already nervous. "My friends say I don't show it," but he can't believe them. Only once, at Velvet's millenium party, has he felt calm in a year and a half of playing. Maybe there was one other time, but he alludes only whispishly.

"I pick my records so I know what I'm going to play, but I don't know what I'm going to do. Usually I just wing it and pray." He adds that maybe I shouldn't quote him on that, but I know what he means – an improviser knows what they're doing, but at the same time they don't. Hence the room for prayer. It's not blind flailing or total pedantic control though; if you want that, you stay in the studio.

I also understand that he doesn't want. He's a newer act in Victoria, and a blurb like that wouldn't necessarily bode well with Victoria's rather reverent electronic audience. Nor would it be a fair summation of Michael Biscoe. Highly quotable snippets like that, almost punchlines, have an unfortunate way of propagating.

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Fri. Sept. 22: Eruption w/Whip – Van Halen Tribute
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Early Show: doors open 8:30pm
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Fri. Sept. 29: The Real McKenzies
Sat. Sept. 30: Meatlocker Seven w/ Volatile
Wed. Oct. 04: Special Event:
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Wed. Oct. 18: Special Event:
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Fri. Oct. 20: Glucifer w/ Black Halos
Sat. Oct. 21: Extreme 107.3 presents Danko Jones
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An excerpt from *Left-Wing Bigot's Corner*

by Tom Howell

I'm going to write a letter to that damn *Martlet*. Some right-wing idiot in the opinion pages is encouraging students to boycott the university bookstore and buy textbooks at Chapters because the prices are lower.

Ahem.

At my favourite desk in a corner of the campus library, hidden behind a steel-rack maze of periodicals, I sit with paper and pen, working on the first line of my letter:

Editor:

While the thought of buying textbooks from the Chapters corporate megachain might appeal to some students, those of us who care to know whether we are giving money to Goodies or Baddies ought to remember that Chapters is a big, bad, Baddie.

I love it. I love it. My forum may be a mere student rag but my letter will be fit for the *Globe & Mail*.

Next line:

Spreading like a fungus across Canada, the big-box book-flogging superstores have . . .

Well. Where to start?

. . . knocked out independent competitors with Wal-Mart-style discounting.

Not, in itself, evil. "Those bastards give us a better price than everyone else, and we are taking advantage of it." That won't send shivers through many spines.

. . . forced publishers to provide deeper discounts, tightening profit margins; and allegedly delayed paying for books.

Woo. Time for a revolution, brothers and sisters.

. . . something to do with Conrad Black, don't they?

This is pathetic.

Ignorant is an ugly word, but I sense it describing me. Luckily, my friend Heather soon appears from the rows of periodicals. I often rely on her because she is much like me only more so. While Heather and I share the same beliefs, she actually believes them. She chants them at protests; she paints them on placards. Of all my friends, she's the one who most nearly went to Seattle for the WTO. Heather will solve this.

"I'm trying to pin down why Chapters is evil but can't put it into words," I complain.

Heather unwraps the blue scarf around her neck and takes a seat beside me. She scrunches her lips in thought.

"They're not interested in books," she says.

"Who isn't?"

"The management. They just want to sell in large quantities. They're only interested in, like, Oprah."

Does it matter if Larry Stevenson hasn't read Timothy Findley? No. No more than it matters that I haven't read Timothy Findley. There must be better reasons to despise Chapters. Fifteen minutes later, Heather and I have created the following list:

(1) Chapters just wants to sell books / doesn't care.

Dubious; we feel it but can't prove it; would sound weak in my letter.

(2) Chapters orders too much stock and returns it / indies can't get the books.

Complicated; only compelling for people who already care about independent bookstores; not enough for my letter.

(3) Chapters set up sibling company, Pegasus Wholesale; forcing more discounts.

More complicated; we don't understand it; nobody would read this letter anyway.

(4) Chapters is too big.

Unpersuasive to right wing people.

(5) Chapters is right wing.

Ditto.

Heather abandons me, saying she has work to do. Alone, I stare at our meagre list.

It dawns on me that (1) to (4) provide excuses rather than reasons. None of them motivate me to despise the company; they justify feelings I already have. The reason that pushes me on, that makes me want to write my letter, is (5).

Editor:

In response to the opinion piece in your most recent issue, may I remind fellow students that Chapters bookstores are Right Wing.

Oh dear. I can't write that.

I blame my parents. They fed me their lefty prejudices and I swallowed them whole. As a result, I sort out life's moral chaos as follows:

Right Wing Things	Left Wing Things
Fraser Institute	Medicare
Businessman	Feminist
Tax Cut	Recycling
GATT/WTO	Environment
New Volvo	Old Volvo
National Post	The CBC

And so on. "Bigot" is a nasty hot potato of a word. Both sides reject it because a bigot is unquestionably a Baddie. In the past, left-wingers have successfully tagged the word to the right-wing camp, where it nestles alongside "redneck" and "racist." Bigots are the perfect enemy because they deserve no pity. In bigot-bashing, whether a pure or diluted form, exists the essential self-righteous pleasure of left-wingism. I find bigots both repulsive and irresistable.

That's why I'm distracted (while cruising the periodical aisles in search of the book-trade magazine Quill & Quire) by a glossy blue document entitled: *Challenging Perceptions: 25 Years of the Fraser Institute.*

According to this document, the Vancouver-based think-tank wants more concentration in ownership of Canadian newspapers (Conrad Black brings balance to pinko media), believes health-care should be privatized, rejects any role for environmental regulations in world trade, doesn't believe in endangered species, thinks child poverty is a hoax, and demands tax cuts . . . but only for the rich.

As I turn the pages, a lovely molten ire bubbles up inside me. All the pictures in *Challenging Perceptions* show grey businessmen in suits. They have a mean look to them, a narrow frown, a cruelly curled lip.

I detest these people, and I feel fine.

Halfway through the document, however, a boxed pull-out quote glares at me:

From William Gardner, author of *The Trouble With Canadians*.

"I have relied on the hard-headed, fact-based analyses of the Institute in many of my own books, and in many years of debating socialist and collectivist opponents have never yet heard or seen a single of those analyses rebutted or denied."

Gulp.

That man's calling me a bigot. I mean, after all . . .

Bigot n. an obstinate and intolerant believer in a religion, political theory, etc.

He's tossing me the hot potato.

He's saying, "If you can't beat our arguments but you still refuse to agree, you're the bigot."

That means I'm the Baddie. My parents, too. And Heather, and all the people I rely on for my opinions. No, no. Hasty panic aids nothing. What's needed is action: if I prove a single Fraser Institute analysis wrong then I can return the hot potato to its rightful owner.

Given my abysmal attempt to tackle Chapters, this is no task to face alone. I need help from the team. Casting my gaze around at the library, I pick out a likely ally: a tall, studious reader bent over a desk, his brown hair curling in unkempt loops. He wears a wool sweater. Thick glasses perch on his sizable nose. He looks, in fact, a lot like me. When I peer over his shoulder and see that he devouring Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot, I know I've found an educated liberal. Go team.

He looks up, tells me his name his Nathan, and agrees to help me with my project.

"What would be your reaction to people who believe in tax cuts but only for rich people?" I ask, with my best journalistic innocence.

"I'd say they were fools," says Nathan.

Good boy.

I show him the December 1999 issue of Fraser Forum magazine, which contains an article by Michael Walker, executive director of the Institute. "If Deep Tax Cuts Are So Great, Why Don't Most Want Them?" asks Walker. He goes on to answer his own question: poor people benefit from the tax system because they gain more in social spending than they pay in tax. The rich lose in the tax game, paying more than the government hands back to them. Since rich people form a minority, tax cuts aren't popular. "The tax system must be made more proportional so that the majority of electors are not net beneficiaries," writes Walker. "That means that tax cuts should be targeted at the net payer end of the income spectrum. But this happy outcome will only be achieved if the electorate can be persuaded that they will be better off as a result."

If this were a kids' cartoon, Michael Walker would emit an evil chuckle at this point. Instead, he goes on.

"The evidence is very strong that they would." U.S. governments tax their rich more lightly and this has encouraged the economy to grow to a point that the country spends "more per US citizen on government services than Canadian governments (on Canadian citizens)," he argues.

Nathan reads, shakes his head, pauses, nods.

"What they say makes sense," he says. "It just kind of rubs me the wrong way. I don't think I'd change my position but it's an interesting argument."

Oh dear, Nathan. That makes bigots out of both of us.

Lament for Leaving

by Darren Alexander

After trailing through the autumnal colours of tundra in the Yukon north, bouncing on mossy hillocks burgundy with bear-berry patches and yellow with willow, crossing ice-cold creeks that turn my red feet blue, sock-filled boots hung 'round my neck, climbing for constellations that sit like chiseled rooks atop precarious peaks, ravens soaring above and laughing because they can, with ease, go higher still...

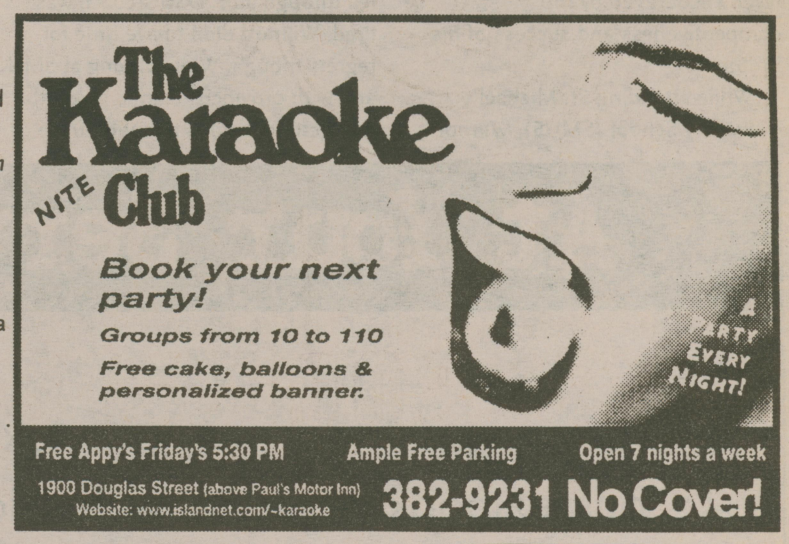
After waking from a frosty tent to a glowing September sun, washing with glacial water cold-comfort and clean to drink, the peaking horizon of north faces newly sprinkled, fresh and bright and white...

After driving along The Top of the World Highway heading for Alaska (presumably safe in a car on the road but fearful still of falling off for all around on either side is 'The World' laid out to no ends like a wrinkled sheet of rock and river, canyon and plain, and range upon range of 'The World'), I am reminded how big we mistakenly believe ourselves to be.

I am too suddenly in Vancouver, dropped unceremoniously by a plane that lies as it denies anything but departure and arrival, time and place, with no mention of the space it crosses.

And out of the busy Skytrain that spans the city I gaze over crowds and buildings, streets and bridges, the short horizon cramped with the tension of moving things. I read the ads that cry for my attention like the laughing crows did before: "Telephone disconnected? No Problem! Home service restored fast regardless of back bills!" and "Hungry? It's Easy! Just point, click, and eat!" and they go on, like that, on and on, as relentless as the ranges and rivers and land of the north.

But here, on this train full of people, I am alone. I am sick with a sadness for this city. Up above, in the natural wonder of 'The World,' I was lost. Here, in this city, I am sorry to be found.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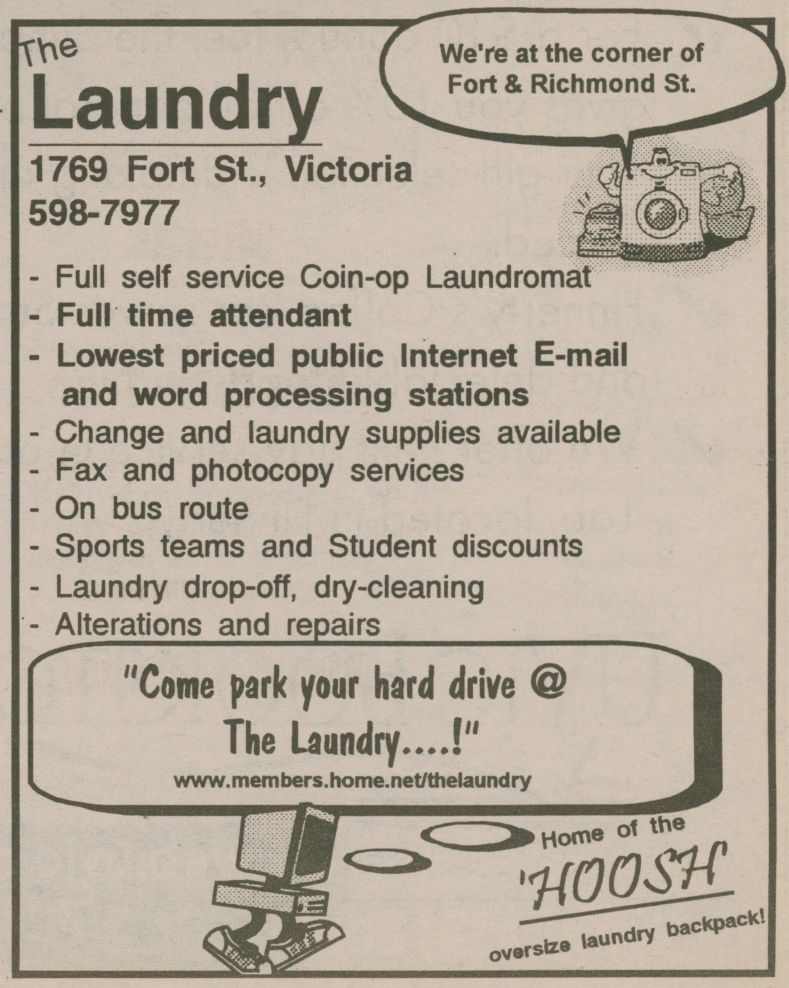
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ALI WILMOTT:

Basketball, brotherhood and kicking ass in the year 2000

by Iain McLetchie

Familiarity breeds contempt. At least, that's how the saying goes. For the UVic men's basketball team, the opposite could be true. The familiarity of going to the Nationals every year definitely hasn't bred contempt.

However, last year was another story as a difficult season ended with the team sitting at home as the National Championships played out.

So September brings more to this team than another run at the title. It also brings a chance to redeem themselves after last season's disappointment.

The team's success this year will be dependent on many factors, but one of the keys will be leadership of a core group of veterans, led by fifth year captain Ali Wilmott.

In his final year of a BA in geography and psychology, Wilmott began playing basketball in elementary school, but it was a few years before he decided it was the sport he would take all the way.

By the time Wilmott reached junior high, his older brother Andy was receiving a fair bit of attention for his basketball abilities.

Andy eventually chose to attend UVic, where he played for five years, followed by professional stints in Ireland and New Zealand.

Because of the attention his brother received, Wilmott started focusing on and enjoying the game more and began thinking about taking his skills to the university level, encouraged by the competitiveness and success of his brother.

While attending St. Michael's University School (SMUS), Wilmott was scouted by many universities interested in his abilities.

One of these schools was Oregon State University (OSU), which began contacting him in Grade 10. Part of OSU's package included a year at an American prep school–a fairly common post-high school route used by players and coaches which allows prospective players to improve their game without using up university eligibility.

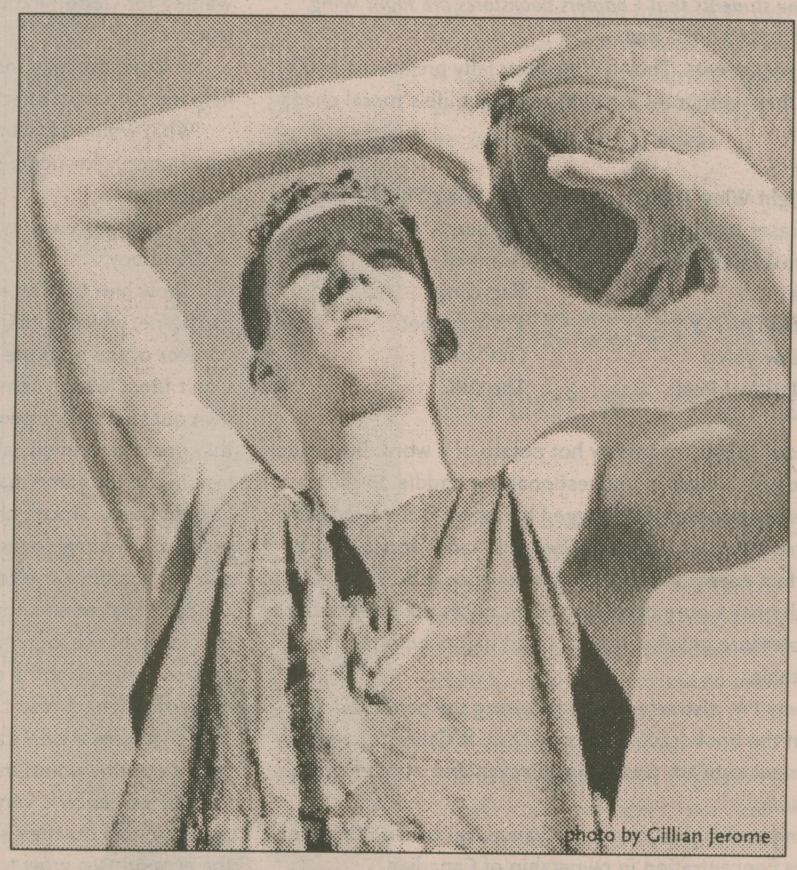

photo by Gillian Jerome

While the offer was interesting to Wilmott, the proposed scholarship fell through after OSU's coach was fired. Wilmott didn't have time for regrets though. While playing at SMU and with provincial teams, Wilmott was getting serious attention from UBC, SFU and UVic.

However, his choice was clear from the start. UVic was in desperate need for a point guard to run the team. Besides, playing with his older brother had been a life-time dream, which he fulfilled during the Vikes' 95-96 season.

"It was a lot of fun to play with Andy because I grew up following my brother," Wilmott says. "We got along well on the court, and didn't have too many flare-ups, although sometimes, in the heat of a game, words were said. It was a good way to make the change to college basketball."

After a highly successful three years with the program, including a national championship in 96-97, Wilmott decided to take a year off school. He spent five months travelling Down Under – a great experience and one which he hopes to repeat in the near future with a few good friends.

Wilmott returned to school last September with a renewed enthusiasm for his studies as well as for basketball. However, last season was a bit of a down year, he says, as the Vikes failed to make it out of the Canada West playoffs and ended up watching the CIAU finals on the tube.

Wilmott made the switch from point to shooting guard, a move which gave him more responsibility in the scoring department and less of a role in setting up his teammates. Wilmott, who has played the point most of his life, found the change enjoyable, and also saw his stats go up as a result of the increased focus on scoring.

"It was different for me, because I'd always been looking to set up my teammates, and now I was looking to score, but I liked it a lot, and adjusted pretty quickly," says Wilmott.

He had a very strong year on an individual level, and was named as a First Team Canada West All-Star as well as being named an Academic All-Canadian.

Overall though, it was a disappointing season for the team, and one which left Wilmott and the rest of the vets with well-defined goals for the upcoming season.

With a few key returnees and recruits, like Tyler Bates and Chris Trumpy, the Vikes will have a much deeper bench. Combine that with a full year of learning and experience for last year's team and the prognosis for the upcoming season looks good.

"We will be a much deeper team this year. Last year we basically played seven guys, and against stronger teams we were in trouble. This year we'll be able to go much deeper on the bench," Wilmott says.

Wilmott says communication between teammates and overall team chemistry are two vital components of the game.

As captain, Wilmott knows it'll be one of his responsibilities to help bring the team together – a role he has always assumed on teams, and one which he enjoys. "I've always seemed to step into the role as a leader on teams," Wilmott says. "It just naturally happened from high school up, especially because I played point, where running the team is part of your job."

Wilmott enjoys the many different aspects of being a basketball player at UVic. One activity he particularly enjoys is the Saanich Police drug program, which the Vikes help with. The police and members of the basketball team go into different schools in the Victoria area and talk to the students about drugs and other topics and give out tickets to home games.

Wilmott says he finds this very rewarding. "I enjoy going into the schools and giving a talk to the students about goals and motivation, and hopefully being a positive influence on them. When I was little it was a big deal, so I understand their feelings. Besides, it's fun because the kids are little and you get to dunk on them."

Wilmott sees himself as a role model to younger children in Victoria, many of whom attend UVic games. He wishes he could do more in the community, but playing basketball and working part-time at B.C. Ferries leaves him with little free time.

However, Wilmott does have plans to hand out tickets at the Children's Hospital and to Big Brothers so hopefully some less fortunate kids will have a chance to enjoy a game.

After graduation in the spring, Wilmott plans to travel with a few close friends, possibly down to New Zealand, where he is hoping to hook up with a pro team.

Before all this can take place there is a year of school to finish and one last kick at the can with the Vikes. The end goal is a return to Halifax and hopefully a chance at another CIAU championship ring.

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UVic women's soccer looks towards promising season

by Rachel Kiers

photo by Rachel Kiers

UVic forward Kim Nicholls moves a step ahead of UBC player

The attitude of the UVic's women's soccer team is best described by team captain Tricia Warrender. "We're going up from here," she said after the team tied the opening game against UBC on Friday night.

UBC controlled play during the first half of the game and two excellent scoring chances were defeated by UVic's goal keeper Morgan Leverman, who was named the UVic player of the game. In the 39th, minute UBC's Rosalyn Hicks connected on a shot from the right side to give UBC a 1-0 lead going into the locker rooms.

UVic showed their capabilities by coming out and dominating the second half. Kim Nicholls, a second-string forward, provided a multiple of crosses in the box allowing UVic midfielder Wanda Rozwadowsk to beat UBC's goaltender and score a goal to tie the game in the 63rd minute.

"It was a typical opening game," said coach Ian Bridge. "A good battle with some ugly stuff. We outplayed them in the second half."

Coach Bridge and the players couldn't help but notice the fan support. A large and energetic contingent turned out to fill the benches. Five UVic students showed their support by wearing colourful wigs and painting letters on the chest that read "GO VIKES." They enthusiastically cheered the team on. Scott Thurmlet, who had the letter K painted on his chest, said that he was there to support our team and show school spirit.

Starting the season with a tied game against one of the league's toughest teams shows that the they employed the strategies and systems they worked on in their 35 days of pre-season training. One of the team's focuses this year is the change to a zonal system which focuses on defense and allows more options to go forward on the offense. Players cover certain areas of the field rather than checking one player. "This allows the players to think more and understand the strategies they are using," said Coach Bridge.

This year the women's soccer team has 11 returning rookies from last year, six new players and a handful of veterans. Even though the team is quite young in its ranks, Coach Bridge said, "It is the most talented team I have ever coached." He feels that any of the players can play in a starting position.

"[The tie] was almost better than winning the game as we know in our hearts that we were better than the other team," said the team captain Warrender. This game gives a good base to their season knowing that they have both the confidence and what it takes to go up against one of the toughest teams in the league.

Olympic Results

Three UVic students were able to convince their professors to dismiss them from two weeks of classes. The reason: all three are competing in the Olympics.

Rick Say and Christin Petelski are part of the UVic swim team and Geoff Kabush is looking to make a name for himself in mountain biking.

Say came in seventh in the 200 metre freestyle with a time of 1:48:76, 3.41 seconds behind the Dutch leader.

Petelski came in 10th in the 100 metre breaststroke and 13th in the 200 metre breaststroke with a personal best time in both races. Christin still has to swim the breast stroke in the 4 x 100 metre medly.

Kabush's event is upcoming

Other UVic alumni in Sydney:

Men's basketball:	Eric Hinrichsen
Women's basketball:	Kelly Boucher
	Karla Karch
Men's rowing:	Derek Porter
	Gavin Hassett
	Adam Parfitt
	Chris Davidson
Women's rowing:	Kristen Wall
	Buffy Williams
	Teresa Luke
Men's field hockey:	Sean Campbell
	Rob Short

Vikes Update

In other Vikes action :

Men's soccer

The Vikes were in Vancouver on Saturday for their season-opener at UBC's Thunderbird Stadium. The no. 1 ranked Vikes dropped a disappointing 2-0 decision to the T-Birds. This is the team's first loss in Canada West regular season play in the last three seasons.

Men's rugby

The men's team traveled to Ladysmith to match up with the Pacific Pride team. The Vikes lost a hard fought battle in their first game of the season. The team dropped 23-10 to the national under-23 side. UVic's Mike Andrews was named player of the game for the Vikes.

Women's volleyball

In Parksville on Friday night the Vikes faced the Malaspina Mariners in an exhibition match. The Vikes were defeated 3-0 with scores of 25-15, 25-18 and 25-20.

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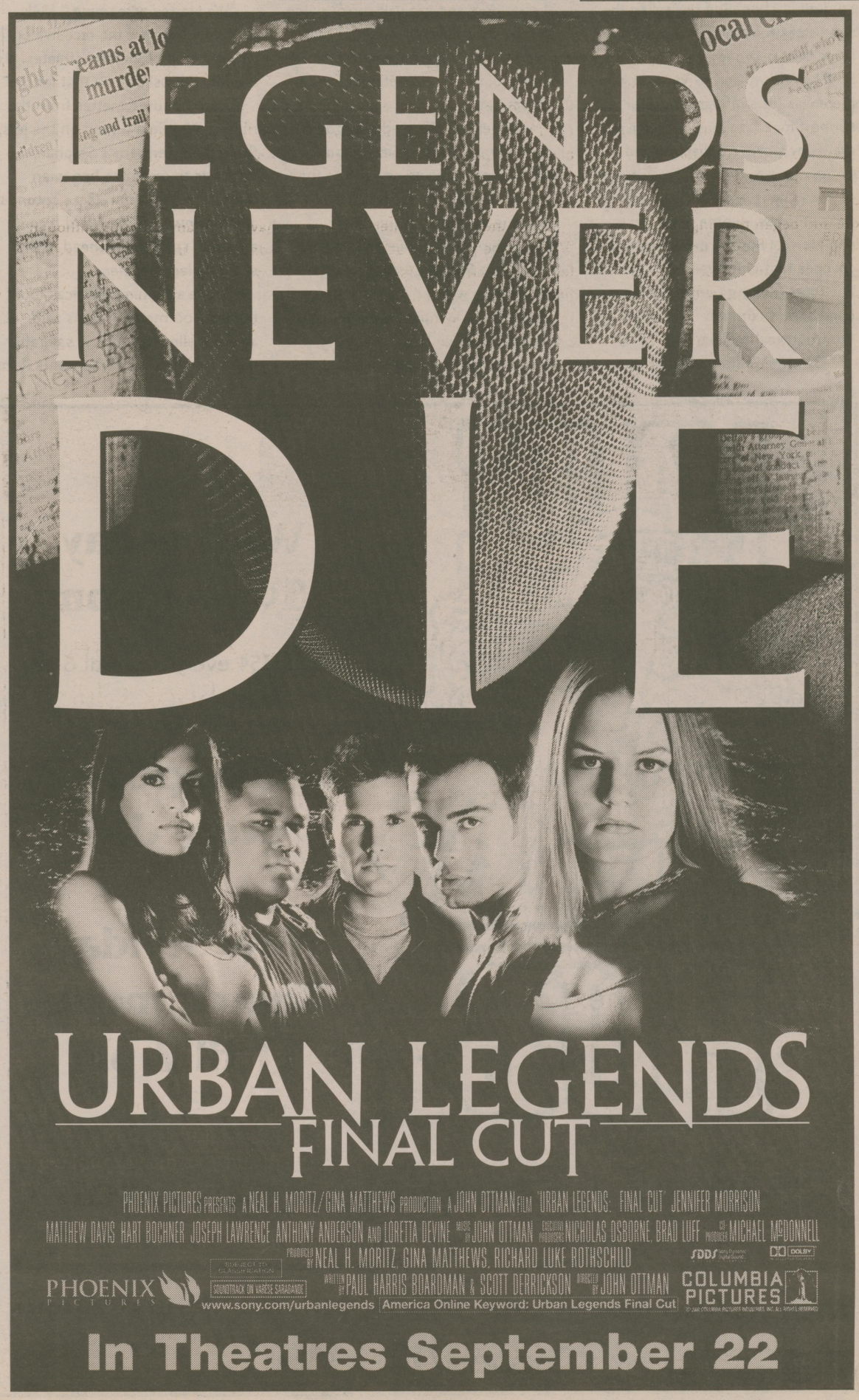
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From UVic ultimate to Sydney gold

photo provided

by Ben Isitt

It's a long way from Thursday night ultimate frisbee on the UVic soccer pitch to the top of the Olympic podium in Sydney.

But last Sunday Victoria resident Simon Whitfield completed that journey, winning the gold medal in triathlon.

Whitfield's victory marked the first Olympic gold for Canada in the twenty-first century, and the first-ever gold in the triathlon, an event which made its debut at the Sydney games.

Born and raised in Kingston, Ont., Whitfield was introduced to the sport at an early age through a program called Kids of Steel.

He moved to Australia, his father's native country, to attend boarding school at age 17. In 1996, he moved to Victoria, the city he describes as "the Honolulu of the north."

Whitfield, 25, lives in the Mosaic apartment building on Fort Street with two kittens, Himalaya – Laya for short – and Sherpa.

His girlfriend Malaika Ulmi is a third-year Earth and Ocean Science student at UVic. She has taken the semester off school to support her loved one in Sydney.

Whitfield moved to Victoria when there was little infrastructure or support for triathletes in the city, drawn by a climate that allowed him to train year-round.

Today he is surrounded by world-class athletes – some from Australia and New Zealand – and a team of coaches that comprise the National Triathlon Training Centre based in the PacificSport complex in Saanich Commonwealth Place.

"Over the years he has produced a training group here," explains Stephanie Mills, a UVic cross-country runner who placed third at the national championships last year. She is a close friend of Whitfield's and shares a house with his girlfriend.

Beyond his intensive training regimen – bedding for the night at 9 p.m. to be at the pool for his 6 a.m. swim practice – Whitfield enjoys adventure sports, basketball, and indoor cricket.

He played ultimate frisbee on the UVic intramural team Red Tide during the 1998-99 season and he has trained extensively with the Vikes cross-country team, honing his running prowess on the chip trails around UVic.

> The triathlon is about who does the best on that day. I guess Simon knows how to choose his race.
>
> *- UVic cross-country runner Stephanie Mills*

Last Sunday's race brought him to a more imposing venue: the skycrappers and seawall surrounding Sydney's world-renowned harbour. Over 400,000 spectators flooded the streets of the city to get a glimpse of the action.

Whitfield was ranked 21st going into the race. He was very good, but not the best, placing seventh in the World Championships last year and breaking into the top ten at two World Cup races earlier this year. Australia's Simon Lessing was the favourite to win.

The first Olympic triathlon in history began with a grueling 1.5 kilometre swim through the choppy waters of Sydney's harbour. Whitfield was in 28th place coming out of the swim, 38 seconds behind the leader.

He gradually pushed his way forward during the 40-kilometre bike ride that looped through Sydney's historic downtown core, moving into fourth place near the end of the ride only to encounter two near-crashes within 1000 metres of the transition area. The first brought Whitfield to the ground, but he recovered and finished the ride in 25th place, within a minute of the leaders.

Running is Whitfield's strength. Early on in the 10-kilometre jaunt, two runners pulled well ahead the pack. Whitfield held back. But as he neared the finish, he picked up the pace significantly, passing competitors he had never beaten before.

"We started screaming," Mills said. She watched the race live on TV with a group of Victoria athletes. "He wasn't supposed to be that far up."

Three hundred metres from the ribbon, Whitfield turned on the jets, flying past Germany's Stephan Vuckovic to cross the line in an impressive one hour 48.24 seconds, a half-minute off the world record and over 13 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher.

"There's nothing physical about the last 100 metres," Mills said. "It's all adrenaline. It's like he said after the race: 'It's about who wants it the most.' It's what he'd been dreaming about for the last 16 years."

Whitfield grabbed the ribbon as he crossed the finish line, punching the air and running into the crowd with a Canadian flag. On the award podium a few minutes later, with the Opera House towering beside him, Whitfield broke down into tears and clutched a bouquet of flowers to his face.

He was an Olympic champion.

"The triathlon is about who does the best on that day," Mills said. "I guess Simon knows how to choose his race."

From a modest livelihood of prize money, some government funding, and a Nike sponsorship deal – Whitfield's world was about to change forever.

In the hours following the race he was swarmed by Canadian and international media. His team threw a party for him that included the band Blue Rodeo, his girlfriend's favourite. And he even received a personal congratulatory phone call from Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

But Whitfield didn't let it go to his head.

His first meal after his gold-medal race was a takeout meal of McDonalds burgers between appointments.

But the significance of his victory should not be underestimated.

"It's become more than just winning the triathlon," Mills insists. "He's the poster child for the Olympics."

What does the nation's newest superstar do for fun?

While Whitfield doesn't have cable, "He likes to play Nintendo," Mills said. He is a regular at the Med Grill restaurant and an avid fan of the local Celtic band Squish, who coincidently played a gig in the SUB's Vertigo nightclub the night before Whitfield's race.

"He plays with the kids next door and comes up with all these games," Mills said. "We don't play croquet. We play 'off-road' croquet."

"He's very young at heart. Very hyperactive," she adds. Mills said Whitfield intends to take some time off this fall, returning to Victoria in early October before heading off to a lake in the Interior and across the Pacific to the Big Island of Hawaii to watch the annual Ironman race.

Brandi Heisterman, a Victoria runner in her final year with UVic's elementary education program, sums up Whitfield's humility:

"He's a really fun person. He's just so humble. He's a really good guy," she said.

Whitfield is a committed supporter of the Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre, donating time and gifts to the groups annual Triathlon for Healing that raised over $43,000 last June.

"He's a bright, genuine, big-picture type of person," said Barbara Armstrong, the Centre's fund development coordinator. "We were honoured – and continue to be honoured – to have had the opportunity to have worked with him."

According to Canada's Olympic Triathlon Coach, Barrie Shipley, "Simon Whitfield is the architect of his own success. He has picked the people and places he needed at different times of his life to be awesome."

What is Whitfield's own recipe for success?

The Martlet is fortunate enough to have come across the Olympian's personal training logbook from the summer of 1994, when Sydney 2000 was still a distant dream and the triathlon was six years away from becoming an Olympic sport.

Inspirational phrases are scrawled across the tattered front cover in Whitfield's tidy handwriting. One reads:

"Success is being happy with what you do and doing it to the best of your unlimited ability."

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Dress code ALWAYS in EFFECT

ON CAMPUS

Sessions in Spirituality presents Dr. Gordon Harland on Dietrich Bonhoeffer: A Portrait of Courage. Dr. Harland discusses Bonhoeffer's theological thought and the story of his dramatic life in the Nazi era and how that story has impacted Dr. Harland's life. **Thurs. Sept. 21** at 11:30 p.m. in the Grad Lounge, Room 108. Call 472-4159 for more details.

UVic Gaming Convention, Sat. Sept. 23 & Sun. Sept. 24. All day long in Clearihue D-wing. Role playing, miniature, board, strategy and card games. Free for everyone. For more information contact Stacey at sapphirestix@hotmail.com or vic_games@flick.com or see the UVic Games Club during Clubs Days.

Catholic Students' Association September events: Sunday Mass – 4 p.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Parish, 4049 Gordon Head Rd. **Mt. Douglas hike – Sat. Sept. 23,** 1 - 4 p.m. Please RSVP at 721-8339. **Catholic Students' fall retreat – Sept. 29 - Oct. 1**. Grow in friendship and explore our spiritual life with other Catholic students at our fall retreat on Thetis Island. Cost is only $35 for the whole weekend. Registration limited to 42 students. Applications are available at the club table or at the Interfaith Chaplain's office, Room 142, Campus Services Building (next to UVic Bookstore).

CAPI & The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada Youth Initiative present **Workshop on Social Responsibility in the Asia-Pacific Region**. Keynote speaker Stewart Goodings. **Sat. Sept. 30,** 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., David Strong Building C122. Contact Mary Pomeroy: mpomeroy@uvic.ca; 658-5493.

Fridaymusic, at Phillip T. Young Recital Hall at 12:30 p.m. School of Music students perform something different every Friday. Admission by donation. For a weekly schedule update call 721-8559.

Need to appeal a Requirement to Withdraw? See the UVSS Ombudsperson, SUB B205, contact ombuddy@uvic.ca or call 721-8357.

Food cupboard bare? Frozen bread is at the free food place every weekday morning (in the SUB by the bus loop entrance).

National Depression Screening Day: Thurs. Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at UVic Health Services. UVic students, staff and faculty welcome.

OFF CAMPUS

Café Philosophy: Taking public philosophy to a new level. Next topic: Self – Who are you? Can you become a different person? How do you know who you really are? **Wed. Sept. 27** at 7:30 p.m. at Torrefazione Italia (1234 Government St), Cover $4/$3 for students. **"Food for Thought"** pre-session starts at 6:30 p.m. Future topics will be listed weekly. For more info call Michael Picard, Ph.D., at 385-4646 or e-mail pyro@philosophy-shop.com

VOLUNTEERS

Be a mentor. Make a difference in a child's life. Become an **In-School Mentor** to an elementary student at George Jay or Burnside School. Visit your student one hour per week & do arts & crafts, play games & sports, bake or pursue other fun and rewarding activities. For more information, call Bonnie at **Big Brothers & Big Sisters** at 475-1117, ext. 306.

The Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre is currently accepting applications for the Fall 2000 crisis line volunteer training. Women interested in supporting survivors of sexual violence call 383-5545 to sign up for an information meeting on **Sept. 27** from 6-7 p.m.

Forming social group for young adults with learning disabilities. Are you, or do you know of, a young adult who might be interested? Call Judy or Liz for more information 474-1230.

Volunteers wanted (male & female) **to work with groups of pre-teens in a fun-focused program for prevention of drug abuse.** One to two hours a week. Training provided. Two facilitators per group. Call Sylvia at 382-0627 or 388-7696.

Enriching our community through friendship. "Community Connections" reach out to persons who have a developmental disability, foster friendship, community inclusion and shared fun! Consider spending a few hours each week as a mentor and friend. Find out how you can make a difference! Call Citizen Advocacy today at 598-6786.

Become a Crisis Line Volunteer with **Need Crisis & Information Line.** Receive extensive training, develop valuable skills & have the satisfaction of helping others. To find out more, attend an information session **Tues. Sept. 26** @ Victoria Police Dept. 6:30-7:30, 850 Caledonia, or call 386-6328, website: www.needcrisis.bc.ca

Volunteer for Nature. Volunteers are needed at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary. Positions include: nature interpretation, trail building, nature house reception, and native plant gardening. Most positions require 2 to 3 hours per week and training is provided. To find out more call Joan at 479-0211 or check out the web site at: www.swanlake.bc.ca

Money doesn't grow on trees, but communities sure do! Volunteer with Lifecycles' urban agriculture programs. For info call 383-5800.

TUTORS

English/Philosophy. Essay critique – proofread, assignment discussion, etc. Enjoy learning but need a little assistance to fulfill your potential? I can help. Call Janet at 595-8438.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meditation in everyday life. Fri. Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m., **Sat. Sept. 23** at 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. & **Sun. Sept. 24** from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. $75/seniors, $60; 25 years & under $25. 1201 Fort Street at the Victoria Truth Centre – entrance behind main building. This weekend journey is presented with heart & gives us a way to live in a healthier, saner & more meaningful way. Call 386-7996 or 383-9108 for more information.

James Bay Community Market Fall Fair Day, Sept. 23 – Join our celebration of the fall harvest with a petting zoo, contests for best pie, your own creation of a "James Bay Square," largest zucchini, best decorated vegetable, kids' bike decoration and parade, live music, and more! Info 381-5323.

For Which We Are Thankful (Sept. 28-Oct. 11)- **The South Vancouver Island Potters Guild** celebrates Thanksgiving with this juried pottery show, which will include both funtional and non-functional clay works. Opening reception **Friday Sept. 29** from 8-10 p.m. The artists will be in attendance **Sat. Sept. 30 & Oct. 7** from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call Dianne Young at 721-0949.

Records Services wants your "Mailing Address." For information and instructions check your address on Webview (www.uvic.ca/reco) before **Dec. 15**.

Pottery Classes available. Six 2.5 hour classes, $140 + GST. Call 383-5446 for more details.

HELP WANTED

Part-time caregiver for friendly young man with disabilities. Weekend shifts, will train suitable candidates. $10/hour. Call Viktoria at 389-0530.

Extraordinary quarterly 'zine put out by staff and clients of **Street Outreach Services** (the needle exchange) urgently needs equally wonderful and important volunteers to enter and format submissions. Call 384-1345 for more information.

Exited sex workers wanted for confidential health research survey. Must have been out of the sex trade for at least two years. $40 for 2 hour interview. Call PEERS at 388-6506.

Licensed Daycare near UVic. 2 spaces available immediately. 721-3320.

FOR RENT

Fully furnished three-year-old condo, three minutes walk to UVic, 2 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms (one ensuite), fireplace, laundry, fully equipped kitchen, balconey, storage, secure underground parking, close to everything. $1286/month. Call 721-0681 for more information.

FOR SALE

Panasonic phone/fax machine. Bought Oct. '97 for $300, asking $200. Comes with manual & roll of paper. **Black, wrought-iron style daybed.** Bought Aug. '96 for $200, asking $100. Call Diana at 472-1899.

1986 Olds Calais. Excellent condition. New brakes. Just serviced. Service reports available. $1,400 obo. Call 595-3102.

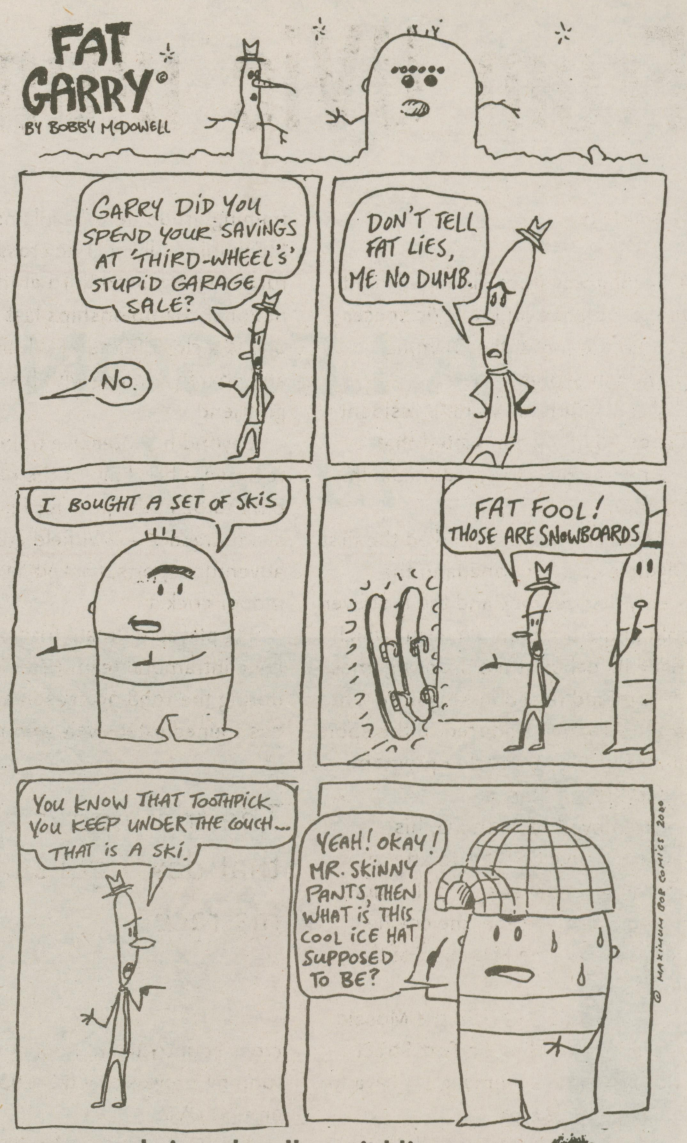
Mac 6400 with modem. Perfect for school and design. $ negotiable. Call 920-7261.

Rocky Mountain Hardtail Mountain Bike, custom 17.5" frame, all-new XT components, Z-3 bombers. $1500 o.b.o. Call 598-3926.

HEY YOU

Happy Birthday Germy, you look ultra sexy in your pink nightgown. We love the way it accentuates ALL your bulges. Have an awesome day!!! Love your girls.

Hail Eris.


FAT GARRY©
BY BOBBY McDOWELL
GARRY DID YOU SPEND YOUR SAVINGS AT 'THIRD-WHEEL'S' STUPID GARAGE SALE?
NO.
DON'T TELL FAT LIES, ME NO DUMB.
I BOUGHT A SET OF SKIS
FAT FOOL! THOSE ARE SNOWBOARDS
YOU KNOW THAT TOOTHPICK YOU KEEP UNDER THE COUCH... THAT IS A SKI.
YEAH! OKAY! MR. SKINNY PANTS, THEN WHAT IS THIS COOL ICE HAT SUPPOSED TO BE?

bring doodles, tickling cartoons, phun drawings to the martlet office: SUB B011

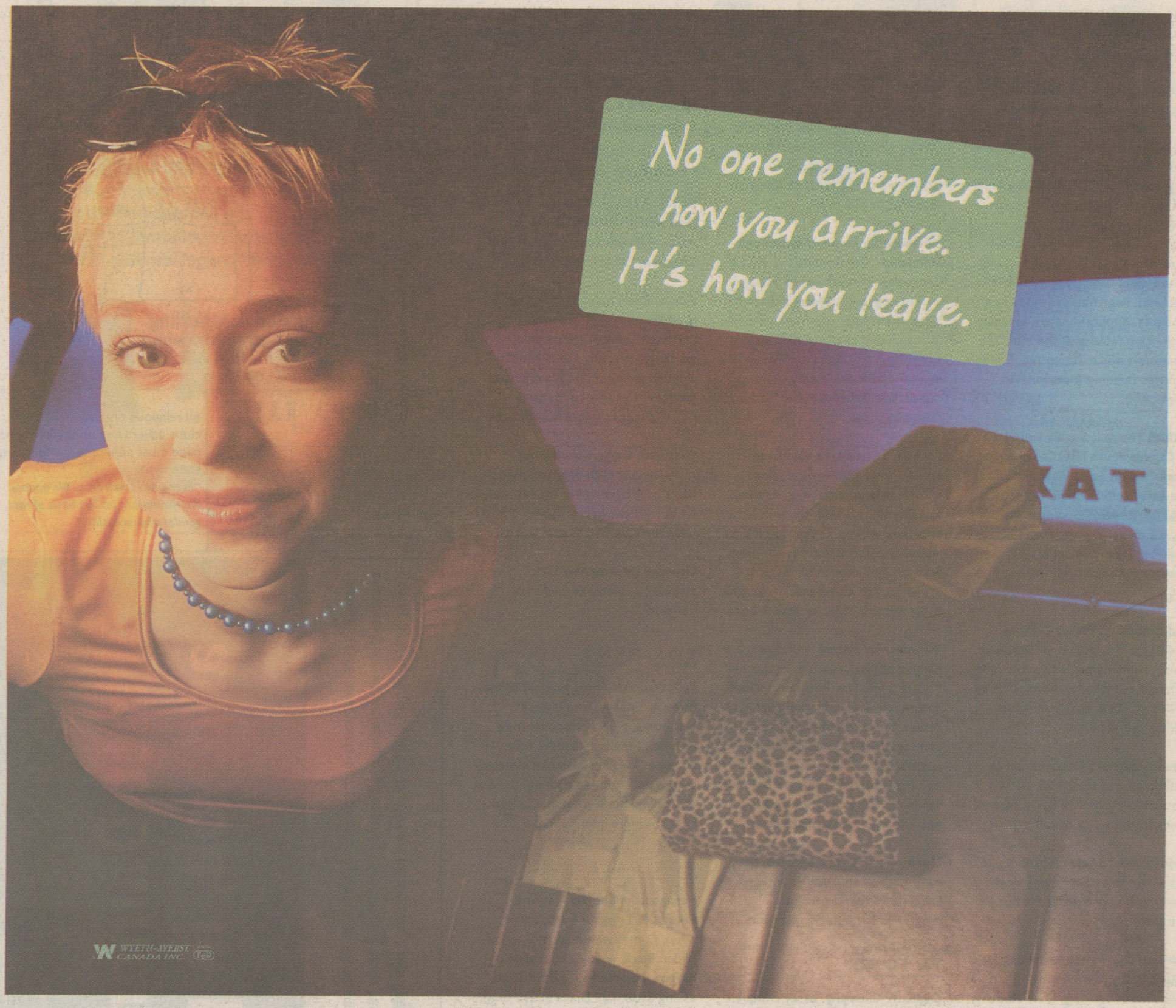
BILLBOARD RATES

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines
hey you!	$1/issue

All religious organizations and clubs advertising on the billboards page must adhere to the following statement:
"Everyone is welcome. We oppose discrimination on the basis of race, gender and sexuality."

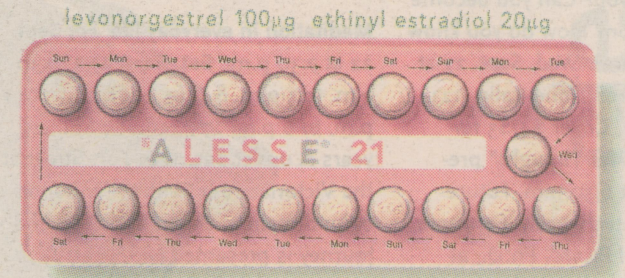
2 9 . 0 9 . 0 0
Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, and you, in pajamas.
Pajama Jam 2000. Wear your favourite pajamas for a free night of food, amazing prizes, music and entertainment, including great improv comedy and the movie "Good Will Hunting".
Hosted by MuchMusic. UVSS SUB, Michele Pujol Room, September 29 @ 8:00 p.m.
FRESH HEADS Campus Survival 2000
MUCH
KNOW WHEN TO DRAW THE LINE

A LESSON
in style



ALESSE®

levonorgestrel 100µg ethinyl estradiol 20µg



To learn more, ask your doctor.